

STARS AND STRIPES®

**Sasebo group
buys movies for
deployed ships**

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Kenny Chesney

**Chesney
finally wins
big at CMAs**

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Matthew C. Perry's
Robb-Kelly Classic

**Inspiration
served in
Far East**

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U.S. troops control most of Fallujah

- U.S. officials believe most insurgents have fled city
- Iraqi forces find suspected 'hostage slaughterhouses'

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**'Air, land
and at sea'**

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VAL GEMPIS/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Airman 1st Class Dominick Petersen, a member of the 374th Security Forces Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, removes a cordon around an E-3 Sentry airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft from the 961st Airborne Air Control Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, during exercise Keen Sword 2005 on Wednesday at Yokota. The exercise is being conducted at U.S. and Japanese military bases throughout Japan.

16-page pullout



**2004-05 college
basketball overview**

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Charitable lemonade stand: Three months after Alexander Scott died of cancer at age 8, her goal of raising \$1 million for cancer research this year by selling lemonade has been surpassed.

Alexandra's parents said Tuesday that the 2004 total probably will be close to \$1.5 million, which the Alex's Lemonade Stand foundation will donate to cancer-research institutions, as it has done since Alex set up her charity four years ago.

Officials at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where Alex was treated, said they have expanded research and experimental medication programs because of the little girl's charity.

'Passion' confession: The parents of a slain teenager whose attacker came forward after watching the movie 'The Passion of the Christ' said a complaint with the state about their daughter's autopsy.

The parents of Ashley Nicole Wilson contend that the Harris County, Texas, Medical Examiner's Office did not detect their 19-year-old daughter's pregnancy. That's despite an obstetrician's examination showing she was pregnant seven days before her death, according to parents Renee Coulter and Dan Wilson.

Big Dig leaks: The Big Dig highway project in downtown Boston is riddled with leaks dumping millions of gallons of water into the \$14.6 billion tunnel system, according to an engineer hired to investigate the cause of a massive leak in September.

Fixing the hundreds of leaks could take up to 10 years, said Jack K. Lemley, a consultant hired by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority to investigate the problem. Lemley told the Boston Globe for a story in Wednesday editions that repairing September's leak would require two months and include traffic lane closures.

McGreavey's future: From advocating for gay rights to pushing for stem cell research, life before the New Jersey governorship appears to be full of possibilities for James E. McGreavey.

As he contemplates a future that begins with his resignation at midnight Monday, his options are seemingly wide open: advocates are courting him to take up their causes, and he has already agreed to be a volunteer for a national education organization, said his friend, state Sen. Raymond Lesniak.

World

Sept. 11 trial: One of the Sept. 11, 2001,



Peace award: Yusuf Islam, formerly known as rock star Cat Stevens, shows the Gorbachev Foundation Man for Peace 2004 award after receiving it from former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Rome Mayor Walter Veltroni on Wednesday in Rome. Islam received the award before the start of the 5th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates conference in Rome.

suicide pilots mentioned the World Trade Center and said "you will think of me again" during an anti-American outburst two years before the attacks on the United States, a witness at the trial of a man suspected of aiding the attacks testified Wednesday in Hamburg, Germany.

Similar evidence from librarian Angela Duile, 33, helped secure the original conviction last year of Moumin el Motassadeq, a Moroccan who is accused of providing logistical support to the Hamburg al-Qaida cell that included three Sept. 11 hijackers.

Gore's new gig: Former U.S. Vice President Al Gore was named chairman Tuesday of Generation Investment Management, a new London-based fund management firm that plans to create environment-friendly portfolios.

Gore said the new company will carefully screen potential companies to invest in, choosing only those that meet specific standards on how they treat their employees and the environment.

Growth prospects also will be considered, he said.

Afghanistan kidnappings: The kidnappers of three U.N. election workers in Afghanistan claimed Wednesday a deal for their release soon could be reached, even as the United States indicated it would not free jailed militants in return.

A Taliban splinter group says 26 prisoners, some of them in Guantanamo Bay, must be freed if it is to spare the lives of the three foreigners, who were abducted 13 days ago in the Kabul.

Military officials in Afghanistan have declined to say whether they will release any suspects.

Pakistan nuclear scientist: Pakistan's Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed a petition against the detention of disgraced nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan after he submitted a letter saying he was being "looked after well."

Khan has been under virtual house arrest in Islamabad since a scandal broke in December over his alleged black market dealings that supplied nuclear weapons technology to Iran, North Korea and Libya.

A friend of Khan's, Hussam-ul-Haq, had petitioned the court, and has claimed that the scientist was in poor health and recently suffered a mild heart attack — denied by Pakistani authorities.

North Korea nuclear crisis: U.S. experts briefed NATO allies Wednesday on international efforts to curb North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

NATO officials in Brussels, Belgium, declined to give details of the confidential briefing.

They stressed the alliance was not directly involved in efforts to pressure North Korea to drop its nuclear weapons program, but said the U.S. briefing reflected NATO's growing role as a forum for exchanges of political information between Europe and North America.

Business

Stewart legal bills: Imprisoned homemaker mogul Martha Stewart has asked the company she founded, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., to reimburse her for \$3.7 million in legal bills.

The company disclosed the request in a regulatory filing Tuesday.

The \$3.7 million figure applies to Stewart's defense on a single criminal count. A federal judge threw out that count before it went to a jury.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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Keen Sword '05 forges ahead at Iwakuni

BY GREG TYLER

Stars and Stripes

Keen Sword 2005, the eighth joint bilateral training exercise since 1986 involving the U.S. military and the Japan Self-Defense Forces, is now in progress.

A segment held at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station was to start Wednesday, even as the base prepares for the upcoming Active Shield exercise beginning Nov. 30, military officials said Tuesday.

Iwakuni's segment of Keen Sword 2005, which ends Nov. 19, involves the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force and units from the Okinawa-based 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force, said Capt. Stewart Upton, base spokesman.

"Keen Sword 2005 is to increase the defensive readiness of Japanese and American forces in the air, land and at sea, and to improve skills needed to operate together," he said.

Keen Sword 2005 training also is taking place at other facilities in Japan, said Capt. Michelle Dowdell, U.S. Forces Japan spokeswoman.

"It's a joint bilateral training held biennially at both United States and Japan Self-Defense Force facilities," she said. A joint exercise involves two or more services from one country, while bilateral refers to the participation of two nations.

The annual Keen Edge/Keen Sword drills alternate between Keen Sword, a field-training exercise staged in odd fiscal years, and Keen Edge, a command-post exercise held in even fiscal years, according to a previous USFJ report. Fiscal year 2005 began Oct. 1.

Some of the exercise training deals with dissimilar aircraft, noncombatant evacuations, base and force security, search-and-seizure and tactical airdrops using C-130 airplanes.

"Keen Sword is the name of the overarching exercise" and each service has its own component and exercises with its JSDF counterpart, Dowdell said.

"Search-and-recovery training is planned at Iwakuni," Dowdell said. "And there will be some flying at Yokota and Misawa air bases and Japan's Hyakuri Air Base, a NEO (noncombatant evacuation) from Atsugi Naval Air Facility to Japan's Tsukuba Air Base and a ground training involving the U.S. Army and Japan at Iwate JGSDF base."



VAL GEMPIS/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force
A C-130 "Hercules" aircraft from 36th Airlift Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan, takes off Wednesday for a mission during exercise Keen Sword 2005 at Yokota.

Lt. Gen. Thomas Waskow, the USFJ and 5th Air Force commander, and Gen. Yuji Fujinawa, chairman of the Japan Joint Staff Council, will direct the exercise.

Meanwhile, starting Nov. 30 Iwakuni is host to Active Shield, an exercise in its second year. It will involve about 100 service members from the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and "about 90 U.S. Marines from Iwakuni's Provost Marshal's Office

and Explosive Ordnance Division," Iwakuni spokesman Upton said.

"It will also involve the JGSDF 13th Brigade and 46th Infantry Regiment," he said. Active Shield is a series of exercises designed to support the Japan Self-Defense Law.

"The individual bases participate at various times during the year in Active Shield," Dowdell said.

A similar exercise was held in Hiroshima Prefecture in September and involved about 70 members of the JGSDF 13th Brigade based in Kaifu, in Hiroshima Prefecture, and about 20 U.S. Marines. They trained to guard three U.S. military facilities, including an ammunition depot in Edajima, said JGSDF officials.

"We are not releasing specific training scenarios at this time, but it will involve practice in patrolling and general guard and protect requirements using blank ammunition," Upton said. Iwakuni's Active Shield training ends Dec. 2.

"We are looking forward to it," Upton said. "We're happy about doing it because it makes everyone involved feel more confident in carrying out these types of operations if needed."

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylertg@strips.com

Sasebo Navy League buys movies for deployed crews

BY GREG TYLER

Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — Elizabeth Baker, recalling years of enjoyment watching holiday-themed movies during the Christmas season, had a bright idea recently for enhancing the holidays for Sasebo's deployed sailors.

"The Sasebo Navy League Council, including Baker, voted to spend about \$500 to buy 30 movies — 10 per ship in the Essex Amphibious Ready Group. The council directed online bookseller Barnes&Noble.com to mail the movies directly to the USS Essex, USS Juneau and USS Harpers Ferry.

Her husband, Lt. Greg Baker of the Commander Task Force 76 staff, is deployed with the ships. Initially, she thought of sending him holiday movies. Then she broadened her thinking.

"The whole idea behind the Navy League Council is to support our fleet sailors, and this year most of them from Sasebo are deployed, including my husband," said Elizabeth Baker, a Navy League administrator.

The Essex ARG is patrolling waters near Iraq; the group will not return before 2005, officials have indicated.

"As a way of supporting the fleet, I thought about sending holiday movies to the ships, and how

that could also make their holidays more enjoyable," she said Wednesday.

A local donor who asked to remain anonymous also pitched in several cases of hard candy, Life Savers, peanuts and popcorn to make the servicemen's movie experience a little more like home. Baker said the donated snacks represent a contribution "in the thousands."

"We tried to include a variety of movies so there would be something for the different tastes of the sailors," Baker said.

Movies purchased include "A Christmas Story," "Scrooged," "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," "Eight Crazy Nights,"

"The Santa Clause," "The Santa Clause II," "A Christmas Carol," "Stealing Christmas," "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and "Bad Santa."

Sasebo Navy League Council President Jerry Havens wrote commanders of the deployed ships suggesting the movies and snacks could be part of "a movie marathon event over the ship's site TV or on around Christmas."

The CTF-76 staff is doing everything possible to get the items to the ships before the holidays, said Capt. Alan Moore, deputy commander. "This is just a wonderful initiative by the Navy League," he said Wednesday.

"I am sure it will be near and dear to the hearts of the crews,

and also to their families, who can now know their deployed loved ones are experiencing some holiday enjoyment. It's very good for morale."

Havens said, "There is little we can do to ameliorate the hardships the men and women on the ships are enduring during this protracted cruise. But we want them to know how much they are appreciated, that we are concerned for their safety and we anxiously look forward to the day when they return home to Sasebo."

"This is also a way to express our thanks to them for service to our nation," he added, "and for serving on the front lines of the war on terrorism."

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylertg@strips.com

Purple Heart presentation

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Senior Airman Kevin Murphy of the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron will receive the Purple Heart on Monday at a ceremony in the Enlisted Club's main ballroom.

Murphy, a wounded, ventilation and air-conditioning specialist who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom last spring, was heading in a rocket attack June 16 in front of the post exchange at Balad Air Base, Iraq. He suffered injuries to his leg, back and chest.

Sent to Iraq May 24, he joined Balad's 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, playing an integral role in installing, maintaining and repairing much-needed air-conditioning units as troops battled 120-degree temperatures.

Monday's presentation ceremony is to start at 10 a.m. The Purple Heart is a presidential citation awarded to any servicemember wounded or killed in the line of duty. It was established on April 5, 1917.

Yokota honorees

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The 374th Airlift Wing recently announced its quarterly award winners.

Honorees (categories in parentheses) include: Senior Airman Justin Smith, 374th Contracting Squadron (airman); Staff Sgt. Anna Dunker, 374th Maintenance Squadron (noncommissioned officer); Master Sgt. Michael Paquin, 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron (senior NCO); and Capt. Timothy Thurston II, 36th Airlift Squadron (company-grade officer).

The wing's tenant unit quarterly award winners were Se-

nior Airman Jacob Harrington, 730th Air Mobility Squadron (airman); Staff Sgt. Samuel Vanderbogart, 613th Communications Response Group, Detachment 1 (NCO); Master Sgt. Bryan Colbert, 730th Air Mobility Squadron (senior NCO); and Capt. Melissa Parent, Headquarters, U.S. Forces Japan (company-grade officer).

Staff Sgt. LaKeisha Marks of the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron was chosen the quarter's top senior guardman, while Teresa Negley of the American Red Cross was named volunteer of the quarter.

Shrine sale Saturday

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — A shrine sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the YUJ Recreation Center.

More than 15 vendors are to offer traditional Japanese crafts, dolls, household goods and small furniture items.

Capt. DSN 225-308 for more information.

Design Festa trip Sunday

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — A trip to the last Design Festa, among the biggest art events in Japan, is set for Sunday, a 374th Services Division official said.

The showcase, at Tokyo Big Sight, traditionally attracts a slew of international artists. It features exhibits of clothing, jewelry, paintings, sculpture, video and performing arts. Some works may be purchased.

Those interested in the \$15-per-person trip may sign up at Yokota's Skills Development Center. Capt. DSN 225-308 for more information.

Oklahoma Day free lunch buffet

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Oklahoma residents who show their state driver's licenses will receive a complimentary Oriental Lunch Buffet at the Enlisted Club on Tuesday. The offer is available to club members only.

Capt. DSN 227-6820 for more information.

Holiday costume rentals

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Outdoor Recreation is offering Christmas costume rentals, base officials said. Suits may be reserved up to 30 days in advance.

Prices are \$10 a day for Santa, or for Mrs. Claus in a long dress, and \$7 a day for an elf or Mrs. Claus in a short dress.

Capt. Outdoor Recreation at DSN 225-4552 for more information.

From staff reports

Clarification

A story in Wednesday's edition about more than 25 Marines caught violating the Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station liberty regulations should have specified that 11 are from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron. A public nonjudicial punishment session applied to these Marines. "We're not sure what sort of punishment the other commands imposed," said Master Sgt. Lesli Coakley, a base spokeswoman.

IN THE WORLD

Foreigners evacuating Ivory Coast

BY PAULINE BAX
The Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — France and the United Nations on Wednesday began evacuating thousands of French and other expatriates trapped at homes, U.N. offices and a French military base during days of anti-French rampages in the West African nation.

The first flight of what were expected to be days of shuttles to Europe and neighboring African countries pulled off the tarmac at Wednesday afternoon, an Air France Boeing 777 carrying 240 evacuees to Paris.

As state television aired fiery calls to mobilize against the French, French troops combed Ivory Coast's largest city to rescue foreigners for evacuation, sending boats to pluck some French off the banks of Abidjan's lagoons.

In Paris, France's Cabinet approved a decree requisitioning commercial aircraft to carry out French citizens in what was shaping up as one of the largest evacuations from Africa since the independence era.

France alone expected to fly out between 4,000 to 8,000 of its citizens from across Ivory Coast, a French official said — potentially the majority of the 14,000 French still in the former French colony.

"It is on a voluntary basis. We are not going to evacuate all our French citizens because they are too many," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Violence erupted in Ivory Coast on Saturday after government warplanes killed nine French peacekeepers and an American aid worker in an airstrike on the rebel-held north.

The turmoil has claimed at least 27 lives and wounded more than 900.

Arafat funeral plans speed up

BY LARA SUKHTIAN
The Associated Press

CLAMART, France — A top Islamic cleric read passages from the Quran at Yasser Arafat's hospital bedside Wednesday, with the 75-year-old Arafat in the comatose Palestinian leader in what an aide called the "final phase" of his life.

The Palestinian foreign minister, Nabil Shaath, said the 75-year-old Arafat is suffering from kidney and liver failure. Arafat's brain is working only partially because of bleeding, and all his organs except for heart and lungs "are not functioning well," Shaath said in Ramallah, West Bank.

As Arafat's condition deteriorated, aides made plans to fly his body to Cairo for a funeral, then to his Ramallah headquarters.

The Muslim cleric, Taisser Bayat Tamimi, rushed to Paris to be with the Palestinian leader, who is in critical condition at the Percy Military Training Hospital, connected to a respirator and a feeding tube.

Tamimi said life support machines would not be turned off "as long as there are signs of life in the body of the president."

"It is prohibited in Islam," he said.

The Palestinian envoy to France, Leila Shahid, told France-Info that Arafat was "in a deep coma" Wednesday, but added there was a "complication in the state of all of his vital organs."

Parliament speaker set to become temporary leader

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Palestinian leaders decided Wednesday that Parliament Speaker Raufi Fattouh will take over as temporary Palestinian Authority president after Yasser Arafat's death, despite concern that the bland former backbencher would not be up to the job.

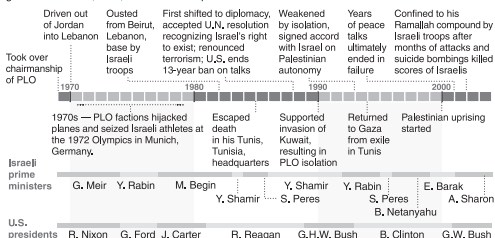
Fattouh, 55, was born in the village of Burka, in what is now Israel, and grew up in the Rafah refugee camp in Gaza. He left Gaza for studies abroad in the 1960s, joined Fatah in 1968 and returned from exile in 1994, along with Arafat and other Palestinian officials.

In the first Palestinian general elections in 1996, he was elected to the parliament on a Fatah slate. In 2003, he was appointed agriculture minister, and a year later was chosen speaker, replacing Qureia who became prime minister. Fattouh is a midlevel Fatah activist, and did not rise to prominence in parliament. He was chosen as speaker as a compromise candidate.

— The Associated Press

Arafat: A constant figure through the decades

Yasser Arafat has led the Palestinian people for nearly four decades and is the only leader most of them have ever known. Since his creation of the Fatah guerrilla movement in 1965 — which later became the core group of the Palestinian Liberation Organization — the world has seen him in various guises as terrorist, exile, statesman and peacemaker.



SOURCE: 2004 World Almanac; Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

At a news conference in Ramallah late Tuesday, Palestinian Cabinet minister Saeb Erekat said doctors were trying to relieve bleeding from a severe brain hemorrhage.

Palestinian leaders, meanwhile, decided that when the time comes, they would bury Arafat at his sandbagged West Bank headquarters, known as the Muqata, in Ramallah, and turn it into a shrine, defusing a potential conflict with Israel

by dropping a demand for a Jerusalem burial. The Israeli Cabinet approved that plan Wednesday.

Israel had been pushing for a Gaza burial, but the Palestinians wanted Jerusalem. Palestinians see Arafat's Ramallah headquarters — his virtual prison for the last three years — as a symbol of his resistance. In Ramallah, bulldozers pushed aside rubble and hauled away piles of wrecked cars to prepare the compound for Arafat's burial.

Palestinian leaders accepted an offer from Egypt to host the main funeral service in Cairo before Arafat is buried in Ramallah.

AP writer Mohammed Daraghmah in Ramallah, West Bank, contributed to this story.

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Hostage in Philippines is released

BY OLIVER TEVES
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — An Italian aid worker abducted in the southern Philippines was released unharmed early Wednesday after Muslim separatist rebels reportedly helped authorities corner his kidnappers.

Andrea Cianferoni, 29, seized Tuesday by four hooded gunmen outside Kauswagan town in Lanao del Norte province, said he was uncertain how his kidnappers were persuaded to release him.

He said no ransom was paid and his freedom was the result of the "wonderful cooperation between the local government, the Philippine marines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front," the country's main Muslim separatist group.

"Everything went well. I'm fine. I want to reassure everyone back in Italy that everything is OK," Cianferoni told reporters in Manila.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said Cianferoni's quick release is "good evidence of the good prospects for lasting peace" between the separatist MILF, which operates in the area where he was kidnapped.

"One of the reasons why we were able to get the kidnap victim so soon was that the kidnappers could not bring the victim to any of the so-called MILF strongholds," she added.

Local marine commander Col. Ben Dolorfino said by phone from southern Cagayan de Oro city that Muslim religious leaders and local officials helped negotiate his release.

Muslim rebels, who have been observing a cease-fire and have entered peace talks with the government, also helped by going after the kidnappers, he said.

Officials identified two of the four kidnappers, who abandoned Cianferoni and fled. Lt. Gen. Efren Abu, the military's chief of staff, told reporters in Manila: "They are bandits and members



Italian hostage Andrea Cianferoni arrives at Manila's airport on Wednesday after being released unharmed by Muslim separatist rebels in the Philippines.

of a kidnap-for-ransom group in the area."

Cianferoni, a native of Florence, had been overseeing projects such as the construction of village roads and health centers for the European Union-funded non-governmental organization Movimondo.

Cianferoni, who spoke earlier to a reporter at Cagayan de Oro airport before boarding a flight to Manila, said he was not harmed and that he avoided angering the kidnappers.

"I was very obedient," he said. He said he and his abductors slept under coconut trees in the hills near Kauswagan, and took shelter in an abandoned hut when it rained.

He said he planned to meet with Italian diplomats to assess his organization's work on Mindanao, the main southern island.

Movimondo said earlier that Cianferoni made a 30-second phone call to the agency's office in southern Iligan city hours after he was snatched to say the abductors were demanding a \$5,400 ransom.

A local official said Cianferoni had visited the village of Delabay-an, outside Kauswagan, with two Filipino colleagues when they were taken. The two Filipinos were later freed with instructions to ask for ransom. They reported the incident to police.

Japan seeks ID of unknown submarine seen off Okinawa

BY MARI YAMAUCHI
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's navy went on alert Wednesday when an unidentified submarine made a brief incursion into the country's southern waters near Okinawa.

The submarine left Japanese waters shortly after it was spotted and a reconnaissance aircraft and destroyer were monitoring its movements, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said. Tokyo also was trying to determine where the vessel came from.

If the submarine's origin is identified, Japan will take "necessary steps," Hosoda said, without elaborating.

Japan's public broadcaster NHK said a defense official: "We are investigating a possible link between the sub sighting and Chinese military vessels detected recently in Japan's southern waters."

"It's regrettable," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi told reporters. "It's certainly not a good thing that a submarine of unknown national origin enters our territorial waters."

Kyodo News quoted unidentified defense officials as saying

that the vessel may be a Chinese nuclear submarine.

Hosoda said it was too early to comment on those reports.

"We have yet to reach the stage where we can make a definite conclusion," he said.

A P3C reconnaissance plane confirmed that the submarine had entered Japanese territorial waters near the Sakishima islands in southern Okinawa prefecture, Hosoda said.

After exiting Japanese territory, the aircraft followed the submarine as it cruised international waters on an indeterminate route that did not appear to be straight, Hosoda said.

Defense chief Yoshinori Ono "issued a maritime alert order" and an emergency task force was set up at the prime minister's office, Hosoda said.

The alert order allows the military to inspect ships and force ships to stop or change course. It also allows the military to use weapons in self-defense.

If the submarine tries to re-enter Japanese waters, Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force can order it to surface and identify itself, Hosoda said.

Defense officials confirmed that two Chinese military vessels — a submarine rescue vessel and a towing vessel — were spotted between Friday and Monday in waters 200 miles southeast of Japan's Tanegashima island.

Officials, however, refused to comment on a possible link between the two incidents.

Japan has been considering ways to boost its maritime defenses after a gunbattle with a suspected North Korean spy ship in December 2001.

In that incident, Japanese Coast Guard patrol boats sank the suspected spy ship off southwest Japan. The patrol vessels returned fire only after the ship, ordered to stop, opened fire with a rocket and guns.

Territorial disputes have occasionally flared up between Japan and its neighbors, China and South Korea, including one that has deepened in recent months with Beijing due to competing claims over natural gas deposits in the East China Sea.

Top ruling party official Shinzo Abe called the infiltration a "very serious matter" and urged the military to use its abilities to determine where the submarine was from.

Winner emerges in first round of Ukraine election

BY ANNA MELNICHUK
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Reformist opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko edged Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich in the first round of Ukraine's presidential vote, the Central Elections Commission said Wednesday after a delayed final tally.

The final count was announced 10 days after the Oct. 31 balloting, a delay that raised questions about problems that could undermine public trust in the count of the Nov. 21 runoff ballot.

Yushchenko claimed a "moral victory" and said "it is important that the first round is over despite all the falsifications and the interference."

His representative at the elections commission, Yuri Klitchkovsky, said "many unanswered questions remain... we still don't believe this was an objective result."

Yanukovich ally Stepan Havrysh accused the opposition of "efficient manipulations and technical falsifications."

"They have stolen our victory," Havrysh said. Later, Yanukovich said he would appear in a televised debate with Yushchenko, reversing an earlier decision.

Earlier counts had shown Yanukovich narrowly ahead, but the final results put Yushchenko about 0.5 percentage points in front, with 39.87 percent of the vote. The results included only 97 percent of the ballots, nearly 3 percent were rejected after they were found to have had "grave voting irregularities," commission chairman Serhiy Kivalov said. Among those ballots were more than 150,000 from the Kirovohrad region where voting was marred by numerous reports of violations including storming polling stations and seizing ballot boxes.

A first-round victory would have required one of the 24 candidates to receive more than 50 percent of the vote.



Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko smiles during a telephone conversation as he was told he won the first round of the presidential election in Kiev, Ukraine, on Wednesday.

The "foot-dragging of the Central Election Commission testifies how difficult it was for them (authorities) to recognize defeat," said Oleksandr Lytvynenko, an analyst from the Kiev-based Razumkov Institute.

The delay in announcing results had been controversial because Ukrainian law prevents second-round campaigning until a final first-round count is announced. The delay kept the two candidates from lobbying the 22 other candidates who divided up the rest of the vote for support.

Yushchenko has secured backing from a top Socialist leader, who got nearly 6 percent of the vote, and three other minor candidates.

Yokota Baptist Church

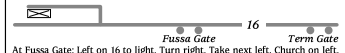
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New rule allows 120 days of leave to be carried over

Effective immediately, change affects all branches

By SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — U.S. servicemembers on the front lines are getting a break on their growing leave time.

A new Defense Department rule lets military personnel carry over 120 days of leave — 30 days more than previously allowed — across fiscal years. The new regulation, which went into effect less than two weeks ago, applies to all branches of service.

The Navy put out a memo Oct. 29 explaining the changes.

"This is a good opportunity to the sailor that they don't lose the leave that they've earned," said Lt. j.g. Kyle Raines, a spokesman for the Navy's Chief of Naval Personnel in Washington, D.C. "It recognizes the arduous duty and the operational commitment that they're under."

American troops have deployed often in the last three years, making it difficult for some to

take all the time off they have on the books. There are about 150,000 troops in Iraq and about 20,000 soldiers in Afghanistan. In addition, the Navy has dispatched ships on short-notice deployments in the past year.

Servicemembers with too much leave can get into a use-or-lose situation if they continue accumulating time off without taking a break. Troops earn 30 days of leave each year.

Eligible personnel have to want to carry their leave to the next fiscal year must request it from their command. Requests must be submitted no later than the end of the first quarter of the following fiscal year.

Military members must keep an eye on their leave so that they can make the request, if they choose, officials warn.

"The onus is on the sailor to let the command know this," said Lt. Spencer Cook, assistant for military pay and compensation, chief of naval personnel.

Scott Schonauer at: schonauer@mail.strips.osd.mil



ERIKIN GONZALEZ/Special to Stars and Stripes

First Lt. Megan Schaefer, from left, Staff Sgt. Antwan Wright and Master Sgt. Scott Wagers wear different combinations of the new physical training uniform. The uniform will be issued to airmen in Southwest Asia first and phased into the rest of the force over the next three years.

Deployed airmen first to receive new PT uniform

By LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The first airmen to get the Air Force's new physical training uniform will be deployed airmen at the 11 fixed bases within U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility, including some in Iraq, according to Air Force officials.

Air Force chief of staff Gen. John Jumper announced a new fitness standard for the Air Force in July 2003, and promised a new PT uniform to go with that standard, since the Air Force was the only service without standardized workout gear.

After a year of wear-testing by 300 airmen, Air Force leaders approved this fall the final design of the unisex uniform, which includes dark blue shorts, a gray T-shirt, and a matching, two-piece dark blue nylon running suit with a reflective Air Force logo on the jacket.

The service has yet to set a mandatory wear date for the PT uniforms.

The first shipment of the PT uniforms is on its way to the 18,000 airmen deployed to Southwest Asia who fall under U.S. Central Command Air Forces, or CENTAF, according to 1st Lt. Gary Arasin, a CENTAF spokesman at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.

CENTAF is the Air Force branch of CENTCOM, the U.S. command responsible for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The reason deployed airmen are getting the PT gear first is because CENTAF's commander, Lt. Gen. Buck Buchanan, said in June that any airmen deployed to an Air Force installation in South-

west Asia would be allowed to wear just one of two outfits: desert camouflage uniforms or workout gear, Arasin said.

Limiting and standardizing the clothing airmen could take on deployments, Buchanan wrote in the policy letter at the time, would "portray a positive military image and... protect the personnel assigned to this command."

However, because airmen are still allowed to wear whatever they wish to work out in, "people were bringing an entire wardrobe [of athletic gear on deployments] or bringing stuff that was inappropriate, like cut-off" shorts, Arasin said. Some of the clothing was so grungy "that it would be questionable here" in the United States, Arasin said, "and it was completely out of line in a foreign country."

So "the best way to remedy the situation was to provide PT gear" that has already been approved by Air Force leaders as modest and appropriate, Arasin said.

Buchanan provided that that solution back in June, saying in his letter that as soon as the official PT uniform was approved, it would be the standard for airmen deployed to CENTCOM.

After approving the PT design, Air Force leaders gave manufacturers the orders to start outfitting CENTAF's deployed personnel. The first shipment of the new PT uniform went out at the beginning of October, and should start arriving at the 11 unnamed "fixed bases at forward locations" in mid-November, Arasin said.

Go to www.af.mil/news/wear_policy.pdf for guidelines on wearing the new PT uniform.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgessl@strips.osd.mil

ebay.com holding online auctions to raise funds for scholarships

By LISA BURGESS

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Veterans of Foreign Wars is holding an online auction to raise money for scholarships for the children and grandchildren of veterans, and the items up for grabs are a far cry from the usual gift baskets offered during fund-raisers.

The auction, which is open through Nov. 16 on Mission Fish,

ebay's nonprofit counterpart, is offering items including a 2004 World Series ball cap, a commemorative pin and ticket stubs from this year's series-ending Game 4, with bidding at \$100 as of Wednesday morning.

At \$500, there is a NASCAR trunk lid and spoiler from U.S. Army/VFW's Pontiac, autographed by driver Jerry Nadeau. An official NFL game

football autographed by the Kansas City Chiefs' star running back Priest Holmes, meanwhile, has bidding that starts at \$250. But there were no bidders as of early Wednesday.

For people whose pockets may not be quite so deep, there is a 2003 New England Patriots Conference champs T-shirt, with bidding beginning at \$20. Again, no bidders yet as of Wednesday.

But not all the items are sports-related: the auction has a "Lord of the Rings" DVD, autographed by Sean Astin, the actor who played Hobbit Samwise Gamgee, with bids at \$100 on Wednesday.

The auction is also offering David McCullough's biography of former President John Adams, autographed by the now-deceased author, with the bid as of Wednesday at \$100.

The three Veterans' Tribute Scholarships are earmarked for children and grandchildren ages 16 to 18, of all branches, including active duty, Reserves and National Guard, and are worth \$3,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000. The winners will be chosen based on personal academic achievement, family VFW involvement and their parent's or grandparent's military service.

The deadline for applying for the scholarships is Dec. 31.

To access the auction site, go to: <http://members.ebay.com/vsw/ebayVSA-Pid?viewUserPage&userid=vfwone> For more information on scholarships, go to: www.vfw.org.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgessl@strips.osd.mil

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Insurgents seen fleeing Fallujah prior to attack

By JIM KRANE
The Associated Press

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq — The rapid U.S. advance into Fallujah may be coming at the expense of one of the operation's chief goals: to capture or kill as many insurgents as possible.

Military reports show that small bands of guerrillas, with no more than 15 members each, fled the city in the days and weeks before the U.S. onslaught — which was widely telegraphed by public statements and media reports.

"That's probably why we've been able to move as fast as we have," one officer from the Army's 1st Cavalry Division, who asked not to be named, said Wednesday. Insurgencies typically succeed by avoiding face-to-face battles with stronger military forces. Instead, they harass troops by attacking their weak points. The guerril-

las who fled Fallujah may simply be repositioning themselves to continue the fight elsewhere, the officer said.

The development may mean the world's most powerful army is chasing a smaller band of rebels than previously thought. Before the assault, the 1st Cavalry estimated 1,200 guerrillas were holed up inside the city, with as many as 2,000 more in nearby towns and villages. It is still unclear how many are left inside or have been killed.

U.S. military leaders, including Marine Maj. Gen. Richard Natonski, and Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi long telegraphed the news that the Fallujah assault was imminent, and insurgents inside the city were able to learn of U.S. troops arriving from elsewhere in Iraq to take positions around the city.

"We gave them too much fair warning that the only ones who stayed had a death wish," the officer



An armored U.S. military vehicle passes near a burning oil pipeline on the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, on Wednesday. Insurgents set off the fire using rocket-propelled grenades Tuesday night.

er said.

There have been unconfirmed reports that two top guerrilla leaders, Sheikh Abdullah al-Janabi and Omar Hadid, have been killed.

But the officer said prominent rebel leaders and fighters are thought to have fled the city, leaving behind defenders willing to fight to the death.

Planners of the assault wanted to prevent a repeat of April's failed Marine siege on Fallujah, where rebels left the city to mount at-

tacks on U.S. bases outside the city and were able to resupply themselves with manpower and weapons.

This time, planners brought in the 1st Cavalry's 2nd Brigade, which cut bridges and choked off routes into and out of the city, trapping fighters inside. The brigade is also chasing insurgents outside Fallujah who are attacking U.S. bases and checkpoints.

There is little evidence that shows guerrillas who fled the city

are now mounting attacks on U.S. bases or supply lines, the officer said. Instead, attacks have cropped up in Baghdad and elsewhere, he said.

Fallujah's defenses have crumbled faster than U.S. analysts prepared for, with resistance lighter than expected. Intelligence shows fighters' defenses in disarray, command and control networks broken down, with bands of three to five guerrillas fighting for self-preservation rather than as part of a larger force.

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Taking the city, while allaying Phantom fears

By ROBERT H. REID
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Fighting is fierce, or maybe it's not, in "Operation Phantom Fury," or perhaps "Operation Al-Fajr," which was launched this week to wrest control of Fallujah from Iraqi insurgents — or maybe foreign terrorists.

Politics and military necessity have produced widely different pictures of the fighting in Fallujah, which began in earnest Monday night when about 6,500 U.S. soldiers and Marines and an estimated 2,000 Iraqi troops stormed into the insurgent sanctuary.

Anxious to avoid a repeat of the failed siege of the city in April, the U.S. command has thrown about three times as many troops into the fight this time, along with an array of sophisticated weaponry that includes tanks, artillery, AC-130 gunships, attack helicopters and jets.

The fighting in Fallujah, however, presents a major dilemma for the interim Iraqi government, anxious to win legitimacy among the country's nearly 26 million people and to prepare for elections by the end of January.

On the one hand, the government cannot tolerate a situation where a city of 300,000, which sits astride major land routes to Jordan and Syria, is in the hands of gunmen believed responsible for car bombings, kidnappings and beheadings.

However, the Iraqi government does not want to appear as "collaborators" with an American force bombarding a Sunni Arab city at a time when the Sunni minority feels threatened by its longtime Shiite rivals. Some, perhaps many, Iraqi Sunnis consider Fallujah the symbol of Iraqi resistance to foreign domination.

Hence, Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a Shiite, has gone out of his way to present the fight for Fallujah as a largely Iraqi operation — with the Americans playing a supporting role.

Before the battle, American officers privately estimated there were up to 5,000 insurgents in Fallujah — 80 percent of them Iraqis and the rest foreign fighters. Iraqi officials have portrayed the percentage as close to the reverse, with masses of foreign fighters supported by Saddam Hussein loyalists and criminals.

When the operation against Fallujah began, the U.S. military referred to it as "Operation Phantom Fury." The Iraqis called it "Operation Al-Fajr," or Dawn, emblematic of a new day for Fallujah's people.

U.S. commanders and staff officers running the operation said they'd never heard of "Operation Al-Fajr" until the top U.S. commander here, Gen. George Casey, picked up on the term. From then on, "Phantom Fury" vanished.

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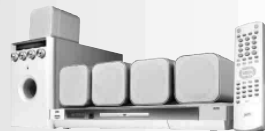
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Gone but now, never forgotten

On Veterans Day, memorials provide comfort to families of Iraq war dead

BY CHELSEA J. CARTER
The Associated Press

Gregg Garvey sat on his porch, clutching a photograph of his son and trying to come to terms with the news the 23-year-old soldier was killed in an ambush in Iraq. The father sat for hours, his cheeks wet with tears, staring at a flagpole in the yard of his Keystone Heights, Fla., home. He wondered how he would survive the overwhelming grief, and how many other parents had the same empty feeling.

Slowly, an image began to come to him, the image of a monument at the base of the flagpole. Then it became clearer: It was a statue of a field cross — a soldier's helmet atop a downturned M-16. He could see his son's name, Army Sgt. Justin "Hobie" Garvey, on it. Then he could see more monuments with more names.

"I just looked at the picture of Hobie," recalls the 50-year-old fa-

ther, "and said, 'Hobie, we've got a lot of work to do.'"

As the country honors its military men and women this Veteran's Day, for many it will be a time to recall the ultimate sacrifice of the more than 1,100 troops killed in Iraq. Across the country, communities, friends and family members like Gregg Garvey are creating scores of special memorials.

There are streets, buildings, even a ship and a mountain peak renamed for fallen soldiers.

In honor of his son, killed July 20, 2003, near Tal Afar, Iraq, Gregg Garvey has pledged to erect a bronze field cross statue in the hometown of every soldier killed in Iraq.

To date, Garvey's project, www.lesttheybeforgotten.com, has raised enough money through donations and the sales of flags for seven statues, at a cost of \$7,500 each.

"Everybody deals with grief their own way. I'm not going to



dwell on what could have been. My son would not have wanted me to feel sorry for myself," Garvey said.

"It's going to work. I just hit 50

Gregg Garvey of Keystone Heights, Fla., looks at the Iraq war field cross he created after his 23-year-old son Army Sgt. Justin "Hobie" Garvey was killed in the conflict in July 2003. Garvey's goal is to erect bronze field crosses in the hometown of every servicemember killed in Iraq. To date, he has raised enough money through donations and the sales of flags for seven statues at a cost of \$7,500 each.

AP

and stir deep feelings.

In Dartmouth, Mass., outside the town hall, officials dedicated a black granite bench inscribed with the name of Army Sgt. Peter Enos, who was killed in April 2003 in Baiji when his patrol vehicle was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Deborah Enos, 59, and her husband, Gerald, attended the dedication of the bench.

"I've been back once or twice," the mother said. "It just brings sadness right now. I know the town did it with the best of intentions. ... But it's too much for us right now."

"We don't know how to go through it. We do a moment at a time."

She knows one day she will be able to visit the bench without such an overwhelming sense of loss. But for now, she's content to know her son's friends and other family members go there.

"They sit there and they remember him, and it means a lot to them," Enos said.

years old. My grandfather just turned 100 this year. I have another 50 years to get this done."

Across the country, other new memorials appear in varied types

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IN THE STATES

Bush taps Gonzales as Ashcroft successor

Ashcroft seeks to overturn state's assisted suicide law

The Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. — Attorney General John Ashcroft is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to set aside the state's — and nation's only — assisted-suicide law.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski argued Tuesday that Oregon voters have twice endorsed the right of terminally ill patients to die more quickly and that "it's past time for this administration to focus on ways to work with Oregon — not against us."

Ashcroft's challenge had been expected since May, when a lower court ruled the federal government could not punish Oregon doctors who prescribed lethal doses of federally controlled drugs.

The government waited until Tuesday, the final day possible, to file paperwork at the high court.

Oregon's law, known as the Death With Dignity Act, lets patients with less than six months to live request a lethal dose of drugs after two doctors confirm the diagnosis and determine the person's mental competence to make the request.

Since 1998 more than 170 people have used Oregon's assisted suicide law to end their lives. The Bush administration has argued that assisted suicide is not a "legitimate medical purpose" and that doctors take an oath to heal patients, not help them die.

The Supreme Court probably will decide early next year whether it will review the case.

BY SCOTT LINDLA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush named White House counsel Alberto Gonzales as attorney general on Wednesday, picking the administration's most prominent Hispanic for a highly visible post in the war on terror.

"His sharp intellect and sound judgment have helped shape our policies in the war on terror," Bush said of the man who has served as the White House's top lawyer over the past four years.

In an announcement in the Roosevelt Room of the White House, Bush outlined Gonzales' personal story — a boy who grew up in a family of eight children in a two-bedroom house in Texas — and now is in line for a Cabinet post.

If confirmed by the Senate, the 49-year-old lawyer would become the first Hispanic to hold the job as the nation's top law enforcement officer.

Even before the formal announcement, one Senate Democratic liberal welcomed the appoint-

ment of "someone less polarizing" to the position. "We will have to review his record very carefully, but I can tell you already he's a better candidate than John Ashcroft," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

Ashcroft announced his resignation on Tuesday, along with Commerce Secretary Don Evans, a Texas friend of the president's.

Gonzales, 49, has long been rumored as a leading candidate for a Supreme Court vacancy if one develops. Speculation increased after Chief Justice William Rehnquist announced he has thyroid cancer.

Gonzales' career has been linked with Bush for at least a decade, serving as general counsel when Bush was governor of Texas, and then as secretary of state and a justice on the Texas Supreme Court.

Gonzales has been at the center of developing Bush's positions on balancing civil liberties with waging the war on terrorism — opening the White House counsel to the same line of criticism that has dogged Ashcroft.

For instance, Gonzales publicly defended the administration's policy — essentially repudiated by the Supreme Court and now being fought out in the lower courts — of detaining certain terrorism suspects for extended periods without access to lawyers or courts.

He also wrote a controversial February 2002 memo in which Bush claimed the right to waive anti-torture law and international treaties providing protections to prisoners of war. That position drew fire from human rights groups, saying it helped lead to the type of abuses uncovered in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal.

The American Civil Liberties Union said it expected the Senate to closely examine those issues during confirmation hearings. The ACLU said it had no position on Gonzales, but added: "Particular attention should be devoted to exploring Mr. Gonzales' proposed

policies on the constitutionality of the Patriot Act, the Guantanamo Bay detentions, the designation of United States citizens as enemy combatants and reproductive rights."

Some conservatives also have quietly questioned Gonzales' credentials on core social issues.

And he once was a partner in a Houston law firm which represented the scandal-ridden energy giant Enron.

But shifting him to Justice would create a vacancy in the White House counsel's office. Bush advisers said two people would be natural for the job. One is White House staff secretary Brett Kavanaugh, a lawyer who has been waiting nearly 16 months for confirmation on the influential U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. He was also a top lawyer in two cases that dogged the Clinton White House.

As associate independent counsel under Kenneth Starr, he worked on both the long-running Whitewater case and the 1998 Clinton impeachment case.

Harriet Miers, a deputy chief of staff who was once Bush's personal lawyer, would be another candidate, one Bush adviser said.

Ashcroft championed many of the most controversial government actions following the Sept. 11 attacks, most notably the USA Patriot Act. It bolstered FBI surveillance powers, increased use of material witness warrants to hold suspects incommunicado for months. When there was a break in a terror case, he was the man at the lectern soberly informing the American people.



Ashcroft



Photo courtesy of Las Vegas News Bureau

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Federal Reserve boosts interest rates

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve boosted a key short-term interest rate by one-quarter percentage point Wednesday, the fourth increase this year.

It's part of a credit tightening campaign to bring rates back up to more normal levels now that the U.S. economy's recovery from the 2001 recession is more deeply rooted. Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and his Federal Open Market Committee colleagues — a group that sets interest rate policy in the United States — increased the target for the federal funds rate to 2 percent from 1.75 percent.

The funds rate is the interest banks charge each other on overnight loans and is the Fed's primary tool for influencing economic activity.

Court rules DUI not enough to deport immigrant

WASHINGTON — A drunken driving accident is not a "crime of violence" allowing the government to deport a permanent resident, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday in the first of three cases this term delimiting the rights of immigrants.

In an 11-page opinion by ailing Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, the court ruled unanimously in favor of Josue Leocal, a Florida man who challenged his deportation to Haiti in 2002 after pleading guilty to a felony charge of drunken driving.

The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the DUI offense was a "crime of violence" under the immigration statute because he had injured others. Local drove through a flashing red light and struck another car, injuring two people in that car.

The Supreme Court disagreed. It said the statute "does not suggest the felony offense must require intent in causing harm — not mere negligence as in Leocal's case — before immigrants are subject to the drastic consequence of deportation."

From The Associated Press

Serial killer on trial for stabbing death

Man who confessed to 13 murders in 1982 now charged in 1979 murder in Michigan

BY SARAH KARUSH
The Associated Press

PONTIAC, Mich. — Helen Dutcher was “literally butchered alive” in a crime that fit the pattern used by a man who confessed in 1982 to 13 slayings, the lead prosecutor in his murder trial told jurors.

But Coral Eugene Watts’ defense attorney told jurors that his client’s past admissions shouldn’t sway them to convict him in the 36-year-old’s death.

The jury heard opening statements Tuesday in the trial of Watts, who is charged with murder in the 1979 stabbing death of Dutcher in the Detroit suburb of Ferndale. If convicted, Watts, 51, faces a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole.

“At the end of this trial, you will leave here a changed person because you will understand that evil can wear a human face,” Donna Pendergast, an assistant state attorney general, told jurors in her opening statement.

Pendergast showed the jury photos of the 13 other women Watts confessed to killing. She said the prosecution’s main witness, Joseph Foy, who says he saw the killing from his back porch, always has given a consistent description.

But defense attorney Ronald Kaplovitz told the jurors that the evidence they would hear was full of “inconsistencies and uncertainties.” And he suggested that they should acquit Watts despite his confessions in the other slayings, which were expected to be introduced into evidence during the trial.

Watts confessed to the other killings in a deal with Texas prosecutors that allowed him to plead guilty to a lesser charge of burglary with intent to murder if he helped officials solve his crimes. He initially was expected to serve his full 60-year sentence, but mandatory release laws and an appeals ruling topped more than 35 years of his sentence. He now is set to go free in April 2006.

Jane Montgomery, who came from the Boston area and whose 24-year-old daughter Elizabeth was killed by Watts in Houston in 1981, said watching the trial was no more painful than living with Elizabeth’s death.

“It’s something that never leaves you,” she said outside the courtroom. “You can’t say ‘How do you feel about having it all up again?’ there’s no such thing. It’s always there.”



Confessed serial killer Coral Eugene Watts, right, and his attorney Ronald Kaplovitz listen as opening arguments begin in Pontiac, Mich., on Tuesday. Watts is charged with murder in the 1979 stabbing death of Helen Dutcher in Ferndale, a Detroit suburb.

CMA picks Chesney as entertainer of the year

BY JOHN KEROME
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Kenny Chesney waited 12 years to win a Country Music Association award — but he had less than two minutes to give his acceptance speech.

Chesney won album of the year honors Tuesday for “When The Sun Goes Down,” and, at the end of the night, received the coveted entertainer of the year award.

Shortly into his speech, music signaled his time was up during the live broadcast. Chesney protested, but the cameras cut away and the show ended.

Chesney was gracious about it afterward. He said he wanted to convey that artists like Conway Twitty and George Strait had inspired him.

“For a kid in East Tennessee ... they made me think there was something else out there for me,” he said.

Tim McGraw’s “Live Like You Were Dying” won song of the year and single of the year.

Written by Tim Nichols and Craig Wiseman, “Live Like You Were Dying” spent eight weeks at No. 1.

The song, about living life to its fullest, was special for McGraw, who lost his father, former New York Mets and Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Tug McGraw, to cancer in January.

Other winners included Keith Urban, Gretchen Wilson, Brad Paisley, Martina McBride and Rascal Flatts.

“Whiskey Lullaby,” a duet recorded by Paisley and Alison



Kenny Chesney displays his awards at the Country Music Association Awards show on Tuesday in Nashville, Tenn.

Krauss, won for musical event of the year and music video of the year. It’s a dark tale about a woman who breaks a man’s heart, watches him drink himself to death and then is so guilt-stricken that she too “put that bottle to her head and pulled the trigger.”

In one of the evening’s surprises, Urban won the male vocalist award. He was up against veterans Alan Jackson, George Strait, Toby Keith and Chesney.

“I thought I was just rounding out the category,” Urban said.

Keith had six nominations for the Country Music Association awards, but he was shut out for the second straight year.

“I have the worst record in the history of the CMA,” Keith said recently.

Jackson, who led all nominees for the ceremony with seven, also left empty-handed.

McBride won female vocalist of the year, her fourth in that category and third in a row.

Concerns aired over runway safety

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Controllers at Los Angeles International Airport were stunned this summer when an arriving jumbo jet narrowly missed a domestic flight cleared to take off on the same runway, a reconstruction showed Tuesday.

“That was close!” said an unidentified voice on the tower radio frequency, seconds after an Asiana Airlines Boeing 747, arriving from South Korea, roared over a Southwest Airlines Boeing 737 preparing to depart for Albuquerque on Aug. 19, according to tapes released by the National Transportation Safety Board.

Such potentially catastrophic incidents are not being fully reported to the Federal Aviation Administration, safety board members warned during Tuesday’s NTSB hearing. The board said its staff found out about the LAX incident

from the Southwest Airlines pilot, not from the FAA.

“The fact that this high-visibility close call was not reported suggests there are deeper reporting problems,” board member Deborah A.P. Hersman said.

The risk of runway collisions is considered to be the biggest safety problem facing commercial aviation as the number of flights returns to the levels seen before the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Board members and staff investigators said they doubted the FAA’s assurance that the nation’s runways were slowly but surely growing safer.

“We believe the numbers [of serious incidents] are down because of a lack of reporting,” said Sandy Rowlett, the NTSB investigator who looked into the Los Angeles incident. She said the board was aware of two other recent in-

cidents at the Cincinnati and Baltimore airports.

The NTSB has called for development of a cockpit warning system that would alert pilots when a runway was occupied by another plane.

The FAA relies on radar that warns controllers in the tower, requiring additional time to alert pilots.

FAA spokeswoman Laura Brown said the agency had scheduled a meeting with the safety board early next month to discuss the risk of runway accidents. She cautioned that there were no easy solutions.

“The board is looking for a silver bullet,” Brown said. “There are some technical challenges.”

She also said serious incidents were being reported. “We don’t believe there is a reporting problem with serious incidents,” said Brown.

2004

Holiday Shopping Guide

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'Pleasure-blocker' pill may aid weight loss

BY MARILYNN MARCHIONE

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The biggest test yet of an experimental pill that promises to help people lose weight and stop smoking found that it helped people not only lose weight but also keep it off for two years — longer than any other diet drug. Cholesterol and other health measures improved, too.

The impressive results from a study of more than 3,000 obese people were presented at a medical conference Tuesday, cap-

ping months of anticipation about the new drug, Acomplia, made by the French pharmaceutical firm Sanofi-Aventis.

Doctors called the research exciting and the company, which funded the study, thinks the drug could have blockbuster potential similar to cholesterol-lowering statin drugs.

In a study of 3,040 obese people throughout the United States and Canada, those given the higher of two doses of the drug lost more than 5 percent of their initial body weight, and a third of them lost more

than 10 percent.

Those who stopped taking the pill in the second year of the study regained most of what they had lost, suggesting that people might have to take the drug indefinitely to maintain a lower weight.

About two-thirds of American adults are overweight or obese, raising their risk of everything from cancer and cardiovascular disease to sore joints and snoring. About a fourth of American adults smoke, which brings many of the same woes.

Drugs now on the market either are de-

signed for short-term use or have distasteful side effects, like bed bugs and nightmares that make many shy away from them.

Acomplia's maker thinks it will avoid those problems by attacking obesity in a novel way, and plans to seek federal approval for it next year.

It is the first diet drug aimed at blocking the "pleasure center" of the brain and interfering with the cycle of craving and satisfaction that drives many compulsive behaviors and addictions.

Study: Older overweight women at risk for leukemia

BY STEVE KARNOWSKI

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — New research has found a higher risk of leukemia among older overweight women, offering another piece of evidence that carrying extra pounds can increase your chance of getting cancer.

University of Minnesota researchers concluded that being overweight or obese could more than double an older woman's slight risk of getting acute myelogenous leukemia. AML, one of the deadliest leukemias, accounts for about one-third of the 33,000 leukemia cases diagnosed annually in the United States.

Earlier studies have linked excessive weight with higher risks for cancers of the colon, breast, uterus, kidney and some other organs. The new study adds one more cancer to the list, said the lead author, Julia A. Ross, an epidemiologist with the University of Minnesota Cancer Center.

The study, published in the November issue of Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention, found that the risk for AML was 93 percent higher among women 55 and older who are overweight, meaning they have a body-mass index of 25 to 29. BMI is a measure of body fat based on height and weight. The risk was as much as 140 percent higher among obese women in their 60s or 70s — those with a BMI of 30 or more.

Because the study didn't address just how excessive weight might contribute to AML, it doesn't prove that losing weight will reduce the risk, said Alan Kinneburgh, senior vice president for research at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. It's possible instead that the same genes contributing to obesity might also contribute to the risk for leukemia, Kinneburgh said.

Ross and the other researchers studied data from the Iowa Women's Health Study, a large-scale project that gathered data from over 40,000 Iowa women ages 55 to 69 from 1986-2001. Among the 37,000 women who were cancer-free at the start of the study, 200 developed various types of leukemia, including 74 cases of AML and 88 cases of the slower developing chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

The data suggested that about 30 percent of AML cases in older women might be linked to being overweight or obese, Ross said.

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FACES

Role leads Preston to reflect on family

BY LUAINÉ LEE

Scripts Howard News Service

Kelly Preston started her day at 5:30 a.m. with a yogurt and fruit drink sweetened with honey. She had 20 minutes before the hair and makeup people arrived to pretty her up for a day of interviews that began at 8 a.m.

Not that she needs much improvement. At 42 Preston is as beautiful as the day she married John Travolta 13 years ago. Now the mother of 12-year-old Jett and Ella, 4, Preston says she focuses most on parenthood, though she continues to act sporadically, including her role in the new comedy film "Eulogy."

"That parenthood will change you forever. I don't care if you've given birth four or five times already it's just so magnificent and magical and life altering. . . . It brings so much to every other aspect of your life it also puts your priorities in such great shape," she says.

Family members and their effect on each other are on her mind as she talks about "Eulogy," a comic tale about a dysfunctional family that collides when the

Actress Kelly Preston stars in the new comedy film "Eulogy."

SHNS/Lions Gate Publicity

patriarch dies. Preston plays the black sheep, of sorts, a lesbian who brings her life partner home with her.

Preston says her own family had its share of eccentrics. "My grandfather, before he passed away, he liked the young women, so he had a nurse that was very young and [he] still had this feistiness about him. And just trying to keep him in line was always a chore," she says.

She confesses she was nervous when she met Travolta's family for the first time — much more fearful when he met hers.

"I was more nervous to have Johnny meet my family because my family has lots of characters going on so I was nervous about that."

"But he fit right in, and he danced with my grandmother, and she was tickled. So it was great."

Preston grew up in Hawaii, living for a

year in Iraq and then relocating to Australia when her parents divorced.

That was a tumultuous time for her, she confides.

"My brother was 6 ... I was about 13. I was able to handle it much more than my brother was. That was very pivotal. We moved to Australia because friends of ours from Australia came to a party my mother was having in Hawaii. They said, 'Get out of Hawaii, take a break, come stay with us in Australia and bring the kids.' We ended up living there for two years. So that was completely pivotal experience."

"For me in one way, I was OK with the separation of my parents because they were unhappy being together and they were happier being apart, so it was easier on us kids and we still got to see my dad. He actually moved to Australia to be closer

to us. So that was wonderful and my parents remained friends throughout the years."

As for acting, "I ended up just falling into it," she shrugs, "and being interested by it when I was about 15 in Hawaii and a photograph was sent and I was sent for a screen test here for 'Blue Lagoon,' obviously I didn't get it. But I started doing a lot of commercials back in Hawaii and I thought, 'This is fun and interesting' and got bitten by the bug."

Married briefly before and the one-time sweetheart of George Clooney and Charlie Sheen, Preston is convinced she's realized her life's dream.

"The secret to keeping a family functional, she says, is 'kindness and editing and don't just say whatever comes to your mind because it can be nasty and vicious. Brutal honesty is not always kind and it's not always asked for or warranted."

Dames take second billing to queen

It was more regal than most movie premieres — two dames and the queen were in attendance at a showing of "Ladies in Lavender" in Leicester Square in London.

Dame Judi Dench and Dame Maggie Smith, both 69 and co-stars of the film, were given second billing Monday as Queen Elizabeth II was the guest of honor.

Proceeds from the event went to the Cinema and Television Educational Fund, of which the queen has been patron for 52 years.

Dench and Smith, who have previously appeared together in "A Room With a View" and "Tea With Mussolini," portray two spinsters in a post-World War II Cornish fishing village who take in a mysterious young Polish man they find half-drowned on a beach.

Dench said she enjoyed the ease of working with Smith again.

"It's the shorthand that we get to know," she said.

Tommy Lee enjoying his school days

Former Motley Crue drummer Tommy Lee said he's finding his experience at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to be a lot of work. In a news conference Sunday, Lee said he loves horticulture, but finds chemistry to be unbelievably hard.

Another shock: Learning he had to wake at 6 a.m. to be at Memorial Stadium for drum practice with school's band.

"This is the total fish-out-of-water experience for me," Lee said. "I didn't have the opportunity to go to college. I was busy touring since the age of 17. So this is completely strange and bizarre, but a lot of fun and a lot of work."

Lee, 42, is attending classes and activities during the filming of an NBC reality show, "Tommy Lee Goes to College." Filming began in early October.

"It's the real deal," Lee said of his studies.

From The Associated Press



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YOUR MONEY

Bargain hunting online

Discount site allows shoppers to compare prices on Web

BY DON OLDENBURG
The Washington Post

With the holidays ahead, some consumers will begin shifting their attention to finding bargains. Andrew Moss is counting on it.

"The focus is the first couple of months will be on shoppers shopping for gifts," says Moss, founder and CEO of Cairo, an online site launched last week that searches out items on sale at the stores nearest you — wherever you are nationwide.

Cairo's concept trades on the growing trend of shoppers researching purchases online before buying from local retailers. A study by the Diener Research Group, a business strategy consultant, reported last month that spending on off-line purchases made by consumers who conducted online research totaled \$180.7 billion a year and is growing faster than online purchases, which totaled \$106.5 billion.

Calling "cross-channel shopping" the "new wave of commerce," Forrester Research, which tracks business and technology markets, reported in September that 65 percent of online consumers were researching products online before buying their off-line. Forty-eight percent said the main reason they wanted to see the product before buying it.

"It's really just about making you a much smarter shopper and saving you a lot of time and money," says Moss.

Moss designed Cairo to give consumers easy online access to the "richness of information out there" so they can save "usually 30 to 40 percent discount from the retail price."

Shoppers key in their ZIP code or city name at Cairo.com, then search for local store sales by specific item, product category, brand, merchant or price range. Click "search" and it collects sales information from the online and local newspaper ads of up to 26 retailers, depending on your location, including Best Buy, Circuit City, Kmart, Target, Kohl's, Home Depot, Lowe's, Sears, Staples and Toys R Us. Results can be sorted by relevance, price or distance to store.

Cairo product manager Tamar Patison says the site is named to conjure up an image of "a marketplace with lots of products, vendors and price points that savvy shoppers can find anything they need at the price they want."

Shoppers willing to register at Cairo (requiring name, address and e-mail) can use several additional features, including price alerts. The site provides rebates and price guarantees offered by

stores and manufacturers on items you buy. It e-mails you alerts if a product you want goes on sale or its price drops. It lets you compare sale prices with on-line retailer prices. And it tracks advertised sale prices on a guaranteed-price item you've bought and alerts you if it sells for less at another store and you're owed a refund.

Cairo isn't the first online bargain engine. There are dozens of price-comparison Web sites, including Google's Froogle, BizRate and America Online's In-Store, which was launched in September. But they aren't localized to brick-and-mortar sales and they aren't all sale-focused.

As for local-focused shoppers online, ShopLocal, which opened for business in August, searches sales primarily from the online circulars published by its parent company, Cross Media Services, and SalesCircular locates sale-priced items by state only.

Carlo differs because its services aren't tied to its business relationships. Instead, it is modeled after the Google design that separates advertising on the right-hand column from its own content.

"Our search results are not influenced in any way by advertising or pay placement," Moss says. The search results you see will be absolutely the best for the consumer."

Flaming Honda CR-V freaks out new owner

Dear Tom and Ray:
I was pretty freaked out recently to learn that more than 20 2003-04 Honda CR-Vs had caught fire after their first oil change. I own a 2003. I called my dealership, and the service manager gave me a story about fly-by-night oil-change places and basically patted me on the head and told me not to worry. This begs the question of owners who change their own oil. I went in for my second oil change and had a chat with the manager. It was a disap-

pointing, because he said he had never heard of this problem! I wasn't happy and told him that I felt scared and that if anything ever happened to my car, my family, I would sue his dealership and Honda. He told me that he didn't want a customer like me and offered to buy me out (at a fair price). I spent a lot of time researching cars before I bought the CR-V. It's not a perfect car (gas mileage/road noise), but it is comfortable and easy to drive. What do you think I should do? Thanks...Mel

RAY: Geez, I just assumed that those fires were due to Honda's factory gas-grill option.

TOM: It's a tough one, Mel. Honda has happened so many times before. The fires have happened in 2003 and 2004 Honda CR-Vs. And they seem to happen immediately after the first oil change.

RAY: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration — the folks who can order recalls — looked into it last spring, and they agreed with Honda that the problem was sloppy mechanics. Honda says that every CR-V fire had a "double gasket" on the oil filter — which means that the mechanic didn't remove the old oil-filter gasket (the rubber seal) before installing a new one — although NHTSA's own reports also cite cases where improperly installed (pinched or distorted) gaskets led to fires.

TOM: In either case, that allows the filter to drip oil onto the hot exhaust system while the car is running, when the exhaust is at its hottest, and...voilà, flaming Honda.

RAY: So NHTSA closed its investigation. And Honda, for its part, agreed to warn all of its tech-

nicians about this potential problem, and insist that they be extra careful when replacing oil filters on CR-Vs. Problem solved, right?

TOM: Well, unfortunately, even after Honda sent out this dire warning, NHTSA continued to get complaints about flaming Hondas. Why? Well, perhaps some technicians — despite Honda's efforts — didn't get the message.

RAY: Perhaps there are lots of non-Honda technicians at gas stations and independent shops who just haven't heard about the char-

Click and Clack

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

broiled CR-V. Or perhaps the simple jobs like oil changes are left to kids who are working part time after school and are distracted by the latest plot twist on "The O.C."

RAY: In any case, NHTSA has wisely reopened the investigation. That makes sense to us. The real problem, in our opinion, is most likely either a flaw in the filter design, or that the hot exhaust is just a little too close to the oil filter on this car.

TOM: A true idiot-proof solution (which happens to be my area of expertise!) would require shielding the exhaust so the oil COULDN'T drip on it.

RAY: But if and only that happens, Mel, you have to be very careful. You have to either discuss this with your mechanic or have an oil change to make sure he remembers, or you have to dump the car and get something else.

TOM: If the dealer gave you a fair offer for it, I wouldn't blame you if you dump it. For most people, the prospect of your car going up in flames is a worst oil you need to add to your life.

RAY: We'll let you know what comes from NHTSA's reopened investigation. But meanwhile, with those 2003 and 2004 CR-Vs need to be sure that anyone changing the oil is very aware of this problem, and how to prevent it. And it wouldn't be a bad idea to keep a bag of marshmallows in the car area, just in case, well, that way, you'll be prepared to make the best of a bad situation.

Get a question about cars? Write to Tom and Ray at asktomandray@car-talk.com. Or, e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.

TUESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES				
52-week	High	Low	Name	Value
Dow Jones Industrials	13,566.50	13,566.50	Dow Jones Industrials	13,566.50
S&P 500	1,274.46	1,274.46	S&P 500	1,274.46
NASDAQ Composite	2,222.41	2,222.41	NASDAQ Composite	2,222.41
Dow Jones Utilities	1,131.32	1,131.32	Dow Jones Utilities	1,131.32
NASDAQ Biotech	1,754.82	1,754.82	NASDAQ Biotech	1,754.82
S&P 500	1,170.87	1,170.87	S&P 500	1,170.87
S&P 500	545.35	545.35	S&P 500	545.35
S&P 500	515.90	515.90	S&P 500	515.90
Dow Jones	11,655.19	11,655.19	Dow Jones	11,655.19

NYSE				
Most Active (\$1 or more)	Volume	Value	Change	%
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Pfizer	29,787.29	26.35	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04
Merch	4,826.26	26.18	+0.01	+0.04

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS				
Company	Price	Change	%	Volume
Boeing	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Lockheed Martin	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Raytheon	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Northrop Grumman	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Boeing	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Lockheed Martin	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Raytheon	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Northrop Grumman	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Boeing	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418
Lockheed Martin	48.15	+0.10	+0.21	1,418

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS				
Company	Price	Change	%	Volume
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418
Fidelity Investor	30.33	+0.01	+0.33	1,418

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates				
Country	Rate	Change	%	Volume
Japanese yen (Nov. 11)	107.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
South Korean won (Nov. 10)	1,016.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Euro (Nov. 10)	1.327	0.00	0.00	1,418
British pound (Nov. 10)	1.510	0.00	0.00	1,418
Commercial rates				
Country	Rate	Change	%	Volume
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3768	0.00	0.00	1,418
British pound	1.5107	0.00	0.00	1,418
Egypt (Pound)	0.1979	0.00	0.00	1,418
Denmark (Krone)	0.1360	0.00	0.00	1,418
South Korea (Won)	1,016.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.7741	0.00	0.00	1,418
Hungary (Forint)	169.86	0.00	0.00	1,418
Japan (Yen)	107.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Israel (Shekel)	4.4228	0.00	0.00	1,418
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2946	0.00	0.00	1,418
Malaysia (Ringgit)	0.3400	0.00	0.00	1,418
Philippines (Peso)	0.5635	0.00	0.00	1,418
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3600	0.00	0.00	1,418
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3600	0.00	0.00	1,418
Switzerland (Franc)	1.1831	0.00	0.00	1,418
Turkey (Lira)	1,492.75	0.00	0.00	1,418

Precious Metals				
Commodity	Price	Change	%	Volume
Gold	435.70	0.00	0.00	1,418
Silver	7.525	0.00	0.00	1,418
Palladium	18.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Platinum	11.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Rhodium	11.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Gold	435.70	0.00	0.00	1,418
Silver	7.525	0.00	0.00	1,418
Palladium	18.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Platinum	11.00	0.00	0.00	1,418
Rhodium	11.00	0.00	0.00	1,418

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Money tip of the day
Car rental deals

The Associated Press
Regular travelers know that rental car pricing can be as confusing as deciphering the federal tax code in 7-point type. A good deal in one market can be an absolute abomination in another. Yet, with a bit of research effort and patience, this task can be simplified dramatically using your telephone and the Internet, according to TravelSmart, a

newspaper published in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.
Start with a major volume travel site, which shows a wide range of companies and results at a glance. Next, head to the individual company's site to see what they're offering on price.
Also, if you don't have to get the car at an airport, see what the cost would be elsewhere in town — it's often lower.

INTEREST RATES

New York Mercile				
Commodity	Price	Change	%	Volume
Prime rate	4.25	0.00	0.00	1,418
Federal funds market rate	1.6125	0.00	0.00	1,418
30-year bond	4.94	0.00	0.00	1,418
10-year bond	4.94	0.00	0.00	1,418

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Rule unfair to foreign nationals

I am thrilled to read that [U.S. Forces Korea commander Gen. Leon J.] LaPorte is against "behavior which is dehumanizing, demoralizing" ("LaPorte: USFK committed to sex-trade ban," news article, Nov. 8, Korea edition). Now let's see the military extend his commendable attitude to the dehumanizing, demoralizing and discriminatory policy on marriage to foreign nationals. That policy is not based in any current law but is a vestige of a post-World War II occupation policy that treated Japanese and Korean women as probable prostitutes.

Consider the requirements of the policy— which women in the United States do not have to suffer (even resident aliens aren't put through this drill, although the policy states they should be). How is that not dehumanizing and demoralizing?

And, no it's not an issue of immigration. The policy itself makes that clear. The Battlefield Combat Identification System gets none of the "marriage package" created by the military.

What about it, Gen. LaPorte? Isn't it time to chuck the paternalistic and racist mind-set of the 1940s?

William J. McGruder
Dixon, Calif.

No flights means no rights

All the military retirees living on Okinawa and mainland Japan are being deprived of rights that they earned by serving 20 years to the U.S. government. As of Oct. 1, retirees no longer rate flights to the United States to receive required medical care. The medevac still is offered to all full-time military.

I am 100 percent disabled and I spend my life in a wheelchair. I don't ever remember reading anything in my contract that indicated that I may lose my medical rights.

Curtis G. Bringley
Yanaburu, Okinawa

Soldiers should be punished

This is in response to the Oct. 20 article "Expert: Army not likely to punish GIs for rejecting assignment" ("Expert says Army not likely to punish Quartermaster troops," Korea edition). The whole situation disgusts me. The fabric of the military would crumble if no punishment is handed down to those soldiers. We cannot expect to win the war on terrorism if we do not have total faith in those leaders appointed over us. There is no reason for a soldier to refuse an order. These soldiers say they had a reason, but I say they had an excuse.

The soldiers involved in this incident should receive the most severe punishment the military can hand down. If not...

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ing is done, a precedent will be set from which the military will never recover. Imagine a military where the soldiers do not have to do what they are told.

Sgt. Sean Venckus
Victory Base, Iraq

Flag patch in wrong place

I agree wholeheartedly with the Nov. 5 letter "Flag patch is wrong," about the placement of the flag on the uniform sleeve and that it shouldn't be placed below another patch.

When I first heard that all soldiers would wear the flag regardless of duty station, I assumed the regulations would be changed and that the flag would not be moved from the top of the sleeve. Perhaps the people who make the decisions on these matters simply overlooked this matter. I think the obvious fix to this question is long due and that the responsible agency should announce a change immediately. The flag should be restored to its rightful place of honor.

Sgt. 1st Class Les Golden
Logistical Support Area Adder, Iraq

Policy won't let CIB change

There has been much discussion recently concerning who deserves to be awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. The purpose of this letter is to neither advocate a position on this subject nor propose alternate badges to recognize soldiers who do not qualify, but to give the real reason the CIB will, under current law, never be awarded to anyone other than combat infantrymen. The reason, dare I say, has to do with sex.

Army Regulation 600-13, Army Policy for the Assignment of Female Soldiers states the following: "The Army's assignment policy for female soldiers allows women to serve in any officer or enlisted

specialty or position except in those specialties, positions, or units (battalion size or smaller) which are assigned a routine mission to engage in direct combat, or which collocate routinely with units assigned a direct combat mission."

The Marine Corps has had the creed "Every Marine is a rifleman." The Army, as a consequence of the emerging nonlinear nature of current and future battlefields, now instills the same mind-set in its soldiers.

The global war on terror requires units with traditional support roles to engage in more active missions that routinely bring them in direct contact with the enemy. Artillery, armor, armor and other formations have left traditional roles and equipment behind to conduct operations indistinguishable from those of infantry units. Cooks, clerks and mechanics gear up for patrols. Convoys bristled with weapons, carried by soldiers trained not to just survive an encounter, but take the fight to the enemy and defeat him.

A great number of these combat soldiers are women.

To loosen the criteria for awarding the CIB, or create other, equivalent devices, would necessarily require an end to the charade that women are serving only in specialties, positions or units that, as expressed by the will of the people through USC Title 10 and implemented by the secretary of the Army by regulation and policy, are expressly prohibited.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Kenneth C. Jensen
Hannau, Germany

Finally, no more 'undecideds'

The votes are tabulated, the election is over and, thankfully, we won't have to hear the phrase "undecided voters" anymore—at least for the next three-plus years. Early in the campaign I warned about them, who they were, and how much courage it took to stand and say, "I can't make up my mind" or "I don't have enough information."

My friend, Jimmy, is an undecided voter. But he has had a decision problem most of his life. He was locked in the commissary once—they found him standing in front of the produce rack talking to himself because he couldn't decide whether to buy McIntosh or Delicious apples.

I suspect that most of the undecideds have such a malady. Deciding to make a decision is not easy. There is always more information available. But if guys like Jimmy would spend more time awake than sleeping or dozing, they might know which way to turn, which fruit to choose, which candidate to vote for.

Conservative or liberal, the extensive coverage, biased and unbiased, covered us like a New England snowstorm whenever we went. Thank God, it's all over.

Bad Celergo
Heidelberg, Germany

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury



OPINION

Excessive gloating is certainly off message

BY KATHLEEN PARKER
Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel

As president Bush gallops into a second term astride his favorite steed, "Mandate," it's hard to suppress the urge to holler: "Whoa, Hoss!"

Confidence is good; conviction is fine; cocksure is even tolerable for a day or two. But hubris, as most second-term presidents and a host of fallen kings will attest, is nearly always fatal. It offends the gods.

Bush's first foray into the winner's circle following the Nov. 2 election was something shy of humble and had even supporters squirming. At a press conference, he responded to questions about what he intends to do by saying he was going to spend his political capital.

"I earned capital in the campaign," he said, "and now I intend to spend it."

Well all right then. As questioning continued, Bush was prickly with a couple of reporters who asked several questions within one, as they typically do. In the first instance, the question(s) went like this: "Mr. President, thank you. As you look at your second term, how much is the war in Iraq going to cost? Do you intend to send more troops or bring troops home? And in the Middle East more broadly, do you agree with Tony Blair that revitalizing the Middle East peace process is the single most important political issue facing the world?"

Hardly a malcontent question. Don't we all want to know the answers to those questions? Bush answered: "Now that I've got the will of the people at my back, I'm going to start enforcing the one-question rule. That

was three questions."

Again, Whoa, Hoss. Bush's bristling probably was reflective of nearly four years of repressed anger toward an often-hostile press. But the man who owns the most nukes, and in whose name young Americans are dying, can afford to be charitable. Especially to people whose unappreciated job it is to hang on his every syllable, including the extra ones.

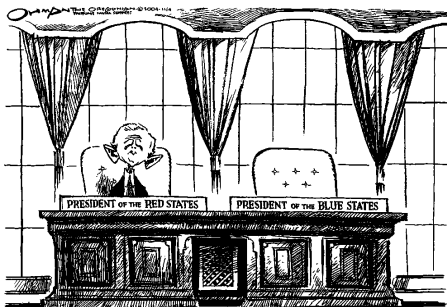
Responding to another three-part question during the same press conference, this time about bringing people together, vis-a-vis a consensus candidate for the Supreme Court or a Democrat on the Cabinet, Bush responded: "Again, you violated the one-question rule right off the bat. Obviously you don't listen to the will of the people."

Republicans have a right to celebrate their hard-won victory. And if George W. can leap for joy clicking his heels, he should. In private. Remove the spurs first.

In public, however, it would serve Bush well to remember that though 51 percent of voters may have issued a mandate, 48 percent or so begged to differ. And among those who cast their ballots in the red zone — as in "Red" Bush states and regions — were a good many who voted without enthusiasm.

I'm not suggesting that Bush should go out of his way to make nice. Most of those who voted for Bush probably would applaud him if he sent the networks — among the lead dogs at press conferences who sit up front and always are called upon — to the back wall, never to be heard from again.

Never mind. I'm not saying that the current crop of reporters, four or five of whom interested that he admit to mistakes during one recent press conference, it's easy to understand his urge to hurl a brushback pitch



their way — high and inside.

Nevertheless, Bush has an opportunity to be recorded as a great president, a historic figure, if he doesn't squander what remains of American good will. Don't laugh. If he succeeds in Iraq and Afghanistan; if a Palestinian state evolves and Middle East peace gets a toehold; if Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida are extinguished; if no more terrorist attacks occur on U.S. soil; if he makes strides toward balancing the budget, growing the economy, saving Social Security and improving education — and, oh, by the way, rescu-

ing the continent of Africa from the AIDS pandemic — he'll go down as one of history's most brilliant, if accidental, presidents.

Obviously, those are formidable "ifs," but Bush would be easier to root for if he'd jump down off that high horse. People can forgive honest mistakes — failed presidential policies are not rare — but few find it easy to forgive a bad winner.

Without a crystal ball, we may not be able to predict the outcome of the next four years, but we know this much about human nature: Pride usually goeth before a fall. We can afford neither.

Democrats dug in their heels, but voters didn't dig it

BY JAMES K. GLASSMAN
Scraps Howard

Last year, Georgia Sen. Zell Miller wrote a book called "A National Party No More," warning fellow Democrats that they had lost touch with America and — unless they returned to their pro-growth, strong-defense, values-oriented roots — they were doomed to permanent minority status.

The Democrats didn't listen. Instead, they ostracized Miller, who became the keynote speaker at September's GOP convention.

Miller turned out to be right. George W. Bush won a stunning victory, and Republicans tightened their grip on the House and increased their margin in the Senate. But, incredibly, many Democrats still don't understand what happened. They blame their defeat — which they incorrectly see as narrow — on John Kerry's ineptitude as a candidate or the GOP's get-out-the-vote drive.

As someone who generally likes Republican policies, I'm faced with a dilemma. Should I give the Democrats serious advice — as Miller did — on how to get back into the political ballgame? Or should I rejoice at their denial and keep my mouth shut? I have searched my conscience and made my choice. So, here are 10 recommendations (with fingers, well, somewhat crossed) on how to get back into the Democratic Party.

1. Nominate Hillary Rodham Clinton for president in 2008. A northeastern senator will be a big advantage this time around as Americans tire of Southern hacks. Sure, her negatives are already 44 percent, but Hillary will get the support of The New York Times — the key to the White House.

2. Be honest about the so-called terrorist "threat." As Democratic leaders know, it doesn't exist. If it did, then why hasn't there

been another attack on American soil in more than three years? The platform should advocate disbanding the Homeland Security Department and banishing those screeners who make us get to the airport so early.

3. Fund a new Michael Moore documentary blowing the lid off religion in America. Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11," hailed by Senate Democrat Tom Daschle (whoops, soon-to-be former leader), nearly won the election for Kerry. The new movie will mock those loopy "born-again," rendering them too embarrassed to show up at the polls.

4. Involve Hollywood more. Kerry failed to make enough use of high-10 stars such as Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins and Ben Affleck. Whoopi Goldberg's brilliant speech at Kerry's Madison Square Garden fund-raiser galvanized America, but she dropped from sight. Use the woman!

5. Two words: "Gun Control." Why didn't

Kerry emphasize gun control more instead of killing geese? Americans hate guns and understand that criminals do not shoot people, guns do. Ms. Clinton should push for ... a repeal of the Second Amendment, that antiquated guarantor of the so-called "right" to bear arms.

6. Reinstate the draft. America's military has become far too professionalized. Democrats understand that the best way to fight a modern war is with citizen-soldiers. Also, do not hesitate to criticize our troops, who have botched the job in Iraq.

7. Bring foreigners into the Cabinet. The best way to improve relations with our European allies is to ask them to join the next Democratic administration. Jacques Chirac, for example, may soon retire as president of France. Why not ask him to become our next secretary of state? There's nothing in the Constitution that says he can't.

8. Make George Soros chairman of the Democratic Party. Sure, it will be difficult to replace a genius like Terry McAuliffe. But Soros is a billionaire with a common touch, a rare ability to connect with Middle America (probably because he's from Mittleurope). He cleverly compared Republicans to Nazis and judiciously spent \$24 million of his own money in efforts that came oh-so-close to beating Bush.

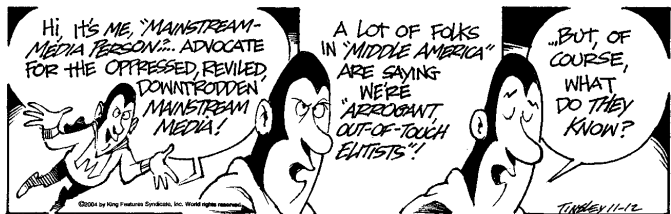
9. "Vote or Die." Use P. Diddy's catchy slogan, which turned out hundreds of millions of young first-time voters in 2004, as the main theme of the 2008 campaign.

10. Raise taxes across the board. Of course, fleece the rich. That's normal Democratic policy. But lower-income Americans will feel a stronger sense of community if they, too, contribute more to government. ... Those are only 10 suggestions. I have more for Chairman Soros. He needs only ask.

James K. Glassman is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and host of TechContraIstation.com.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Carnival catastrophe

MA BOSTON — The state Department of Public Safety stood by its findings in a fatal carnival accident after the owners of the carnival ride issued a blistering attack, questioning the qualifications of safety officials and calling their performance "dismal."

Jaro Amusements Inc. released the statement Sunday in response to the department's final report on the Sept. 19 accident at St. Mary's Parish in Shrewsbury, in which a car on the Sizzler ride broke apart in midair, killing one man and injuring two other people.

Katie Ford, a spokeswoman for the department, said Monday that its investigation "thoroughly and accurately assessed" the accident and attributed appropriate responsibility for the accident to the three mechanical problems with the ride.

Taking their story back

NC BOLIVIA — Prosecutors threw out charges against a man who served 20 years in prison for the sexual molestation of two girls who recanted their allegations.

The victims, who were 4 and 6 when they made the charges, testified that they falsely accused the man under pressure from their grandmother because she wanted to protect the real abuser — a cousin of the girls.

Sylvester Smith, 53, was serving two consecutive life sentences after being convicted in 1984. At the time, he was the boyfriend of one of the girls' mothers and was living with them.

Prosecutor Rex Gore said he will not pursue charges against the cousin, who was 9 at the time, because he was so young. He is serving a life sentence in state prison for first-degree murder, Gore said.

Fire injures three

TX HOUSTON — A two-bombing blaze injured a firefighter and at least two residents, authorities say.

Neighbors told law officers they heard a loud explosion about 4:30 a.m. at the two-story home in southeast Houston. Emergency crews discovered the fire when they responded to the report.

A resident was seriously burned, said firefighters. They said one or two other residents were taken to hospitals for treatment of smoke inhalation.

The injured firefighter suffered less serious burns, according to the Houston Chronicle's online edition.

Taxi killing

FL WEST PALM BEACH — A taxi driver killed a drunken passenger when the man refused to get out of his cab, police said.

Robert Lee Smiley Jr. was charged with first-degree murder and was being held without bail.

The victim, Jimmie Morningstar, became heavily intoxicated at a bar and started a scuffle, and a bouncer paid Smiley \$10 to drive Morningstar home.

Outside Morningstar's home, two witnesses told officers they heard Smiley yelling at Morningstar to get out of the cab, and one saw Smiley try to pull Morning-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

star out, then zap him with a stun gun, a police report said.

Major car troubles

CA SONOMA COUNTY — When Claud Gipson-Reynolds got his fire truck stuck in the mud along a rural road, he did what anyone would naturally do: He called for a tow truck on the engine's radio.

The problem was, the intoxicated Gipson-Reynolds had just stolen the fire truck, crashing through the fire station door, to try to push his car out of the same mud.

Instead of a tow truck, dispatchers sent the California Highway Patrol to lock him up.

"I could probably get on that show, 'World's Dumbest Criminals,'" a chastened and sober Gipson-Reynolds, 36, said from his home after bailing out of the jail on charges of vehicle theft and drunken driving.

"I was pretty intoxicated at the time. My thinking was not the best."

'Band-Aid Bandit' back

FL TAMPA — For nearly three years, the bank robber with the beer gut and the trademark Band-Aid on his left cheek eluded even the most unconventional efforts to catch him.

The "Band-Aid Bandit" robbed 33 banks in eight countries but always got away, even as frustrated authorities distributed remarkably clear surveillance pictures across the country and promised a \$25,000 reward for information

leading to his capture.

Then last fall, the portly robber went into sudden hibernation — taking more than \$300,000 in stolen cash with him.

But authorities say two recent robberies in Tampa Bay have confirmed that, after a 10-month hiatus, the Bandit is back — and as elusive as ever.

Ray Velboom, a special agent supervisor for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Tampa, was in the Panhandle helping with hurricane relief efforts when he heard about the Bandit's return; he hit a Wachovia Bank in Hillsborough county on Sept. 21. The second recent robbery happened Oct. 22 at a Capital City Bank in Spring Hill.

Propane: Terror threat?

CO DENVER — The FBI is investigating the reported thefts of scores of propane cylinders in the Denver area — a crime spree that has raised fears of a terrorist attack.

About 100 cylinders, each containing about 7.8 gallons of the highly flammable gas and weighing about 33 pounds, have been stolen from various businesses since July, FBI agent Monique Kelso said.

"The potential threat is that these propane tanks get into the wrong hands ... and get into the hands of those that are willing to commit a crime on the magnitude of the Oklahoma City bombing or another terrorist attack," Kelso said.

The real Uncle Sam

NH MASON — Yes, Virginia, there is an Uncle Sam, and he lived in New Hampshire.

But the popular "I want you" image of the bearded old man in the top hat had little to do with the real Samuel Wilson.

Nevertheless, Wilson and his story have intrigued a collector from France, who recently bought the 230-year-old Cape Cod where Wilson lived. Jean-Pierre Mouraux plans to live in the house and turn the barn into a museum for his collection — 350 original posters, 150 pieces of sheet music and various other Uncle Sam-themed knick-knacks.

"Uncle Sam is the most important symbol. To have that, it's incredible," Mouraux, 62, said of the house.

Libertarian accused

PA PHILADELPHIA — A Libertarian who lost a race for Congress last week has been arrested for evading \$87,000 in federal income taxes.

Arthur L. Farnsworth, 42, had vowed on his Web site that he would "never file an individual federal income-tax return again." A federal grand jury alleged the electrical engineer failed to pay taxes for three years on more than \$221,000 in income and tried to conceal his earnings by transferring assets to fraudulent trusts and overseas bank accounts.

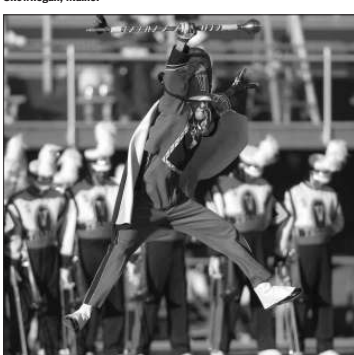
Farnsworth, treasurer of the Pennsylvania Libertarian Party, drew fewer than 4,000 votes in his bid for a seat in the House of Representatives. Republican Michael Fitzpatrick won the race.



Cycles in the mist

Skowhegan, Maine.

Albert Dipietro uses warm water to clean his motorcycle after a ride in



Strutting his stuff

the air, signaling the rest of his marching band to come to life, during the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Battlefest 2004.

Terrence Sykes, a Virginia State University drum major, jumps into

Checking things out

An egret twists its long neck to get a hard-to-reach spot on the underside of its wing while preening at South Beach Marina on Hilton Head Island, S.C.



Just kickin' it

Andy States, 4, passes the time kicking his soccer ball at Burlington field in Raeford, N.C.



Pucker up

Derek Goeman gets up close and personal with a 4-year-old bloodhound named Knotty at the West Michigan Harvest Cluster Dog Show in Comstock Park, Mich.



The long road

Robert Frank's "U.S. 285, New Mexico, 1956" is part of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art exhibit "Few Are Chosen: Street Photography and the Book 1936-1966."



Rainy day

Illinois State University students walk to and from class near a sculpture at the Science Laboratory building.

Football horror

CA VALLEJO — A standout high school football player in Vallejo died at John Muir Medical Center after apparently suffering a serious brain injury during a football game.

Michael Pennerman, 16, collapsed unconscious on the sidelines at Corbus Field in Vallejo after being tackled during the fourth quarter of a game against Rodriguez High School of Fairfield, according to his family and school officials.

The Jesse Bethel High School junior never regained consciousness and was treated by medical personnel at the scene before being taken to Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Vallejo. He was later transferred to John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, where he died, said Tish Busselle, spokeswoman for the Vallejo City Unified School District.

Stabbing search

VT BARRE — Police are looking for a man who allegedly stabbed a Williamstown teenager.

Edgar Magoon, 17 of Williamstown was stabbed in the chest, police said. Magoon was taken to Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin shortly before 12:30 a.m.

He was reportedly treated in the hospital's emergency room for a three-inch stab wound and later released.

Police were looking for an 18-year-old man known as "E." The man, who is believed to be from New York, may have ties to the Burlington area, police said.

Fighting for a cause

NC WINSTON-SALEM — A man exonerated after spending 18 years in prison on a murder conviction has started a nonprofit foundation to help investigate inmates' innocence claims.

The Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice, incorporated in the past week, also will help freed inmates rejoin society.

"I wanted to help other people, to give them a voice, because I know I was fortunate to have people supporting me and speaking up for me," Hunt said. "I was innocent, and I know how hard it is for people who are in prison to have voices on the outside to speak up for them."

Hunt was convicted in the 1984 slaying of Deborah Sykes, a newspaper copy editor in Winston-Salem. DNA evidence proved in 1994 that Hunt was not the man who had raped Sykes, but he was released only this year, after the evidence led authorities to a new suspect they say acted alone in killing Sykes.

Crash landing

MI DETROIT — A small plane crashed in a Detroit neighborhood, engulfing at least two houses in flames, and witnesses said construction workers at the scene helped pull two people out of the wreckage of the aircraft.

The man and woman were taken to a hospital, where they

were in serious condition, said Detroit Fire Commissioner Tyrone Scott.

Police said nobody on the ground was injured.

The roof of one house was completely burned away, and another house appeared to be nearly gutted by fire. The mangled remains of the two-engine Piper Aztec plane rested on the ground across the street from one of the homes.

The plane went down after taking off from Detroit City Airport and clipping a utility pole, Scott said. The cause of the accident was not immediately known.

Gas line explosion

KY LUELL — A gas line exploded in rural Kentucky, burning four houses and injuring eight people, including an off-duty state trooper who helped others escape, officials said.

There were no immediate reports on what caused the explosion, state Emergency Management Agency spokeswoman Stacy Floden said.

Four people were being evaluated at hospitals in the area, and three others were treated and released.

The gas line is owned by Kentucky-West Virginia Gas and maintained by Mark West Hydrocarbon Inc.

Inmate's head crushed

UT DRAPER — An inmate was killed accidentally when his head was crushed in a closing cell door, officials said.

John J. Gardner, 27, was peering out his cell at Utah State Prison when an officer about 150 feet away activated the mechanism that closed the cell doors on the block, the sheriff's department said.

The officer was standing behind a wall, where the door mechanism is located, and could not see that Gardner was not completely inside the cell, prison spokesman Jack Ford said.

Ford said when the cell doors are about to be shut, the guard shouts out his intentions and the doors begin closing 10 to 15 seconds later.

eBay inflation case

NY ALBANY — Eight eBay sellers were ordered to pay nearly \$90,000 in restitution and fines after admitting they bid up products online to inflate the prices.

New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer said more than 120 people will receive restitution in the settlement of the three cases, which wrapped up last week in state courts.

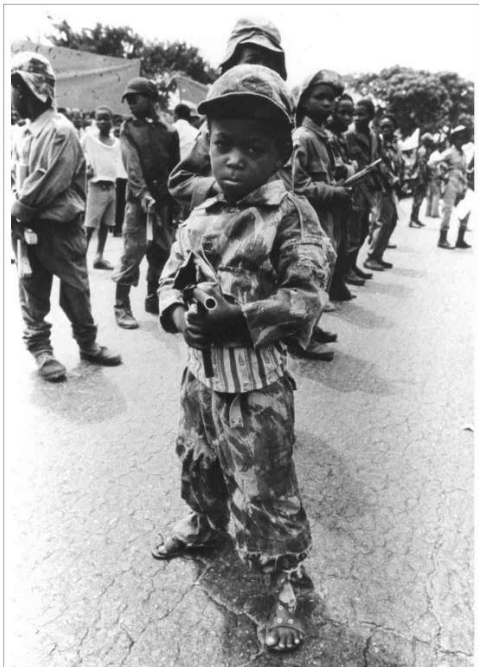
Spokesman Darren Dopp said the cases stemmed from specific complaints, but the office has not conducted a broad investigation of the online auction industry and doesn't know how widespread the practice of phony bidding is.

One buyer, Brad Clarke, 48, of Peachtree City, Ga., already has received a check for \$3,089 overpaying for a 1999 Jeep Cherokee sport utility vehicle he bought on eBay from a New York seller in 2002.

Stories and photos from wire services

Child, or child soldier?

He doesn't get to choose.



An Angolan child trains with a wooden gun.

United Nations/J.P. Laffont

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Horoscope

The new moon in Scorpio poses a question about that ongoing personal habit you've been struggling with for so long. What if you just accepted that extra tummy roll or your obsession with that certain television show as part of who you are? If the prospect of forever living with the flaws scares you, now's the time to do something about it.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (November 12). This will be a year of firsts — first marriages for some of you and first children or grandchildren for others, particularly between the months of April and August. Some will travel to Europe for the first time. Others buy your first home or achieve something significant in your career, such as selling a first book. Lucky love signs are Cancer and Virgo.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're making up your own definition for the word "commitment." If you've been seeing someone special for a while, you may be thinking about tying the knot. Watch out for a Sagittarius or Leo who wants to hog the spotlight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Make a declaration of independence. Relationships that are on shaky ground need someone to make the big decision — why not you? If you happen to work from home, you can expect a nice bonus to hit your mailbox real soon.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Start your new exercise program. You'll have plenty of energy and motivation and no trouble finding a personal trainer or workout partner. Yome, you can expect a nice bonus to hit your mailbox real soon.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Relationships deepen as you get lucky in love now. You'll find new qualities to love and admire, and you can bet your counterpart adores the attention. Single crabs find the fish in the sea they were originally trying to catch.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A sudden career change could irritate you temporarily, but you'll be back on your feet in no time. Chances

are, your new situation will bring you more money and respect. The spotlight is on you — are you ready for your close-up?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You get noticed on the job, and people ask for you by name. Positive reviews and excellent word of mouth put your services in demand, especially if you work in the arts. Remodeling or redecorating will be comically inspired.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your daily routine is constantly changing, which is good since you get bored easily. At work, you're still trying to get into a comfortable groove. Talking to an earthy Taurus, Virgo or Capricorn pal will help keep you grounded.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is no better time to launch a new project than right now. You are an absolute dynamo, and everything you touch turns to gold. Even that hottie who seemed so out of your league just a few days ago is putty in your hands.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your living arrangements are due for a change, and some long-distance traveling may be involved. Some of you inquire into a foreign exchange program or teach overseas. Your love of learning must be satiated!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're reassessing your commitments, as cosmic energy brings with it a renewed sense of purpose. You've accepted new responsibilities and are wondering now if you should have. Don't doubt your ability!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Work gets really hectic as the year-end push starts to take effect. Watch your health. All this rushing around and eating on the run is bound to take a toll on you. You would be wise to check your cholesterol.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your deep and resounding need to help others and save the world is activated. With the universal gears shifting in your favor, you can combine your two loves and make a profit to boot!

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Holiday Mathis



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



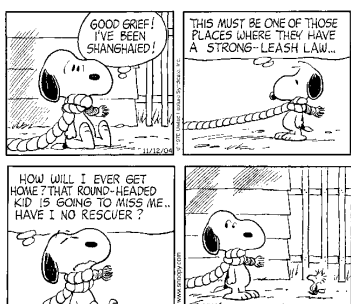
Red Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



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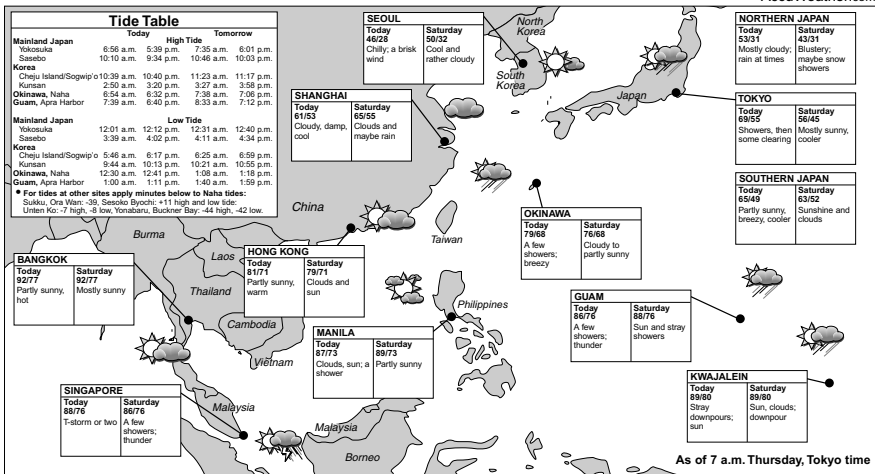
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The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO
 Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 60, low 56.
 Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 67, low 51.

KADENA
 Sunday: Partly sunny, high 79, low 70.
 Monday: Mostly cloudy, high 76, low 66.

SEOUL
 Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 48, low 29.
 Monday: Sunny, high 41, low 27.

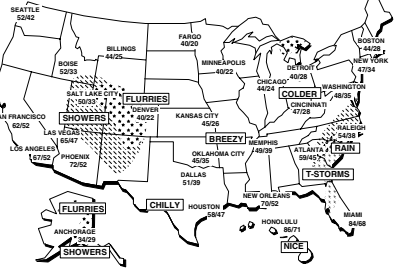
MANILA
 Sunday: Partly sunny, high 87, low 73.
 Monday: Partly sunny, high 87, low 73.

HAGATNA
 Sunday: Showers, high 88, low 76.
 Monday: Showers, high 88, low 76.

Wednesday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	60/36	Little Rock	66/57
Amarillo	60/35	Louisville	68/49
Anchorage	39/33	Miami	81/71
Asheville	56/38	Milwaukee	61/36
Baltimore	50/34	Nashville	68/51
Birmingham	67/53	New York	45/38
Bismarck	44/11	Omaha	57/25
Boise	51/40	Orlando	80/60
Boston	42/36	Philadelphia	49/34
Brownsville	88/66	Phoenix	75/53
Buffalo	57/44	Pittsburgh	60/42
Burlington	41/36	Portland, OR	58/42
Charleston, SC	66/48	Portland, ME	39/31
Charlotte	59/38	Salt Lake City	57/42
Cleveland	62/41	St. Louis	72/46
Columbus, OH	62/41	San Antonio	81/60
Duluth	46/15	San Diego	68/56
El Paso	71/42	San Juan	84/76
Hartford	41/24	Tampa	83/64
Helena	45/26	Tulsa	67/48
Indianapolis	64/43	Washington	53/38
Jacksonville	78/59	Wichita	56/37
Kansas City	66/36		

Friday, November 12



U.S. Extended Forecast

Friday, a storm will leave the East Coast, taking the clouds and rain with it. Clouds will break for sunshine across the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states, and the air will be quite chilly. Cold air will also cover the Ohio Valley; high temperatures will be 5-10 degrees below normal despite sunshine. Wet weather may linger in parts of the Southeast until the afternoon. High pressure will keep the Plains and Upper Midwest dry and chilly. Meanwhile, an upper-level disturbance will trigger rain and snow showers over the central and southern Rockies. The West Coast will be dry.

Friday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	92/77	Kaduna	79/68
Beijing	42/30	Kansan AB	52/34
Camp Casey	47/22	Kwajalein	89/80
Chicago	65/42	Manila	87/73
Diego Garcia	84/76	Misawa AB	60/36
Hagatna	86/76	Osan	48/29
Hanoi	81/71	Perth	69/53
Hong Kong	87/71	Taipei	62/66
Honolulu	86/71	Pusan	59/41
		Tokyo	69/55

Friday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	90/72	Budapest	57/45
Athens	69/58	Buenos Aires	63/56
Auckland	65/54	Cairo	89/65
Baghdad	70/41	Cancun	81/68
Barbados	87/71	Cape Town	84/63
Barcelona	53/42	Geneva	50/40
Berlin	52/37	Istanbul	69/57
Bermuda	72/62	Jerusalem	78/59
Brussels	52/35	Johannesburg	80/56
		Katol	54/21
		Kiev	47/42
		Kuwait	82/51
		London	54/34
		Madrid	49/36
		Mexico City	66/41
		Montreal	36/19
		Moscow	86/72
		Oslo	46/30
		Paris	49/37
		Rio de Janeiro	81/66
		Rome	62/51
		St. Petersburg	43/30
		Stockholm	48/33
		Warsaw	54/41



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NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
Toronto	3	1	.750
New Jersey	1	3	.250
Boston	1	3	.250
Philadelphia	1	3	.250

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
Miami	4	0	1.000
Washington	2	2	.500
Orlando	2	2	.500
Atlanta	1	3	.250

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Indiana	4	0	1.000
Chicago	1	3	.250
Minnesota	1	3	.250
San Antonio	1	3	.250

Western Conference

Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Phoenix	2	2	.500
New Orleans	0	4	.000

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Utah	4	0	1.000
Seattle	3	1	.750
Minnesota	2	2	.500
Portland	1	3	.250
Denver	1	3	.250

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
Phoenix	4	0	1.000
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
L.A. Clippers	2	2	.500
Golden State	0	4	.000

Tuesday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Orlando	4	0	1.000
Dallas	3	1	.750
Miami	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
New Jersey	4	0	1.000
Portland	3	1	.750
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
New Orleans	1	3	.250
Phoenix	2	2	.500
Houston	3	1	.750
San Antonio	2	2	.500
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Wednesday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Orlando	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Thursday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Friday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Charlotte	4	0	1.000
Boston	3	1	.750
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
San Antonio	2	2	.500
Philadelphia	1	3	.250
Atlanta	1	3	.250

Saturday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Charlotte	4	0	1.000
Boston	3	1	.750
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
San Antonio	2	2	.500
Philadelphia	1	3	.250
Atlanta	1	3	.250

Sunday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Charlotte	4	0	1.000
Boston	3	1	.750
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
San Antonio	2	2	.500
Philadelphia	1	3	.250
Atlanta	1	3	.250

Monday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Charlotte	4	0	1.000
Boston	3	1	.750
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
San Antonio	2	2	.500
Philadelphia	1	3	.250
Atlanta	1	3	.250

Tuesday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Wednesday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Thursday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Friday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Saturday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Sunday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Monday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Tuesday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Wednesday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Thursday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Friday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Saturday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Sunday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Monday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Tuesday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Wednesday			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
Toronto	3	1	.750
New Jersey	1	3	.250
Boston	1	3	.250
Philadelphia	1	3	.250

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
Miami	4	0	1.000
Washington	2	2	.500
Orlando	2	2	.500
Atlanta	1	3	.250

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Indiana	4	0	1.000
Chicago	1	3	.250
Minnesota	1	3	.250
San Antonio	1	3	.250

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Utah	4	0	1.000
Seattle	3	1	.750
Minnesota	2	2	.500
Portland	1	3	.250

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
Phoenix	4	0	1.000
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
L.A. Clippers	2	2	.500
Golden State	0	4	.000

Tuesday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Orlando	4	0	1.000
Dallas	3	1	.750
Miami	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
New Jersey	4	0	1.000
Portland	3	1	.750
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
New Orleans	1	3	.250
Phoenix	2	2	.500
Houston	3	1	.750
San Antonio	2	2	.500
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Wednesday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Orlando	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Thursday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

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Philadelphia	2	2	.500
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Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

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San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

Sunday's games			
	W	L	Pct
Dallas	4	0	1.000
San Antonio	3	1	.750
Philadelphia	2	2	.500
L.A. Lakers	3	1	.750
Golden State	1	3	.250
Sacramento	1	3	.250

2. A—19,001 (19,763).

Nets 64, Trail Blazers 60

PORTLAND Abdul Robins 5 16 3 4 12

Wake's Paul tops All-America team

Guard leads season of great expectations in Winston-Salem

BY JIM O'CONNELL

The Associated Press

Chris Paul is going to hear Tim Duncan's name a lot this season.

The sophomore guard from Wake Forest was the leading vote-getter Tuesday on The Associated Press' preseason All-America team, joining Duncan as the only players from the school to earn that honor.

Paul received 55 votes from a national media panel to make the team along with four seniors: Lawrence Roberts of Mississippi State (50 votes), Wayne Simien of Kansas (50), Julius Hodge of North Carolina State (41), and Hakim Warrick of Syracuse (33).

The Demon Deacons are second in the preseason Top 25, matching the highest ranking in school history. The previous stay at No. 2 came when Duncan played at Wake Forest.

Paul led the Demon Deacons to the round of 16 in the NCAA tournament last season, the first time they got that far since 1997, Duncan's last year.

"One of the hardest things for Chris to understand last year was that I trust him completely," Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser said. "I want him to play, not to think."

The 6-foot-Paul averaged 14.8 points, 3.3 rebounds and 5.9 assists last season while shooting 49.6 percent from the field and 84.3 from the free throw line. As his freshman season unfolded, he became one of the premier players in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"I just love the way he commands a game," Prosser said. "Despite his angelic appearance, he's extremely competitive.... He's not without flaws, but I wouldn't trade him for any point guard in the country."

Roberts is one of two returning All-Americans from last season.

Ryan Gomes of Providence is the other, but



Guard Chris Paul, above, joined Tim Duncan as the only Wake Forest players to lead voting for the AP preseason All-America team. The No. 2 Demon Deacons start their season Nov. 15 at home against George Washington.

he finished sixth in voting for the preseason team.

The 6-foot-9 Roberts started his college career at Baylor and left there when the program fell into disarray after a player was killed. He averaged 16.9 points and 10.1 rebounds during Ball State's last season and many people thought he would leave for the NBA.

"Nothing's going to change in a year, unless, God forbid, an injury or something like that happens. Everything's going to work itself out," Roberts said. "Any time I see a person return, I see it as a positive."

The other three players also put off a shot to play with the pros.

Simien averaged 17.8 points and 8.3 rebounds as a junior for the Jayhawks, the No. 1 team in the preseason rankings. The 6-9 Simien, who shot 53 percent from the field and 81 percent from the line, battled knee, shoulder and groin injuries during his first three seasons.

"He is the most improved player on our team," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "If he's able to stay healthy, and I believe he will, I think he can play to that level. He's improved a lot."

Hodge was the ACC player of the year last season after averaging 18.2 points, 6.4 rebounds and 3.6 assists for the Wolfpack, who finished second in the league. He was second in the conference in scoring and led it in shooting (51.3 percent).

But the season ended with a loss to Vanderbilt in the second round of the tournament, a game Hodge fouled out of with less than 3 minutes to play.

"That was the game we lost and we've gotten better since then," Hodge said. "So we can use that as a learning tool, and it gives us that much more experience and makes us that much better for the upcoming season."

Warrick was a key member of Syracuse's national championship team in 2002 and he'll be part of an inside-outside combination this season with junior guard Gerry McNamara.

"I put a lot of pressure on myself," said Warrick, who flirted with entering the NBA Draft after averaging 19.8 points and 8.6 rebounds as a junior. "I came back for a reason, and that was to be the No. 1 player in the country, come back and win a national championship."

Junior Nelson of Saint Joseph's and Emory Okafor of Connecticut both were preseason and postseason All-Americans last year. The other players on the 2003-04 preseason team were Ricky Paulding of Missouri, the Diogo of Arizona State, and Raymond Felton of North Carolina.

Sophomore guard leads vote-getters

Chris Paul of Wake Forest was the leading vote-getter selected to The Associated Press' preseason All-America team. A look at the starters:

Chris Paul

Guard
Wake Forest, So.
6 ft., 0.0 lb.

As a freshman, was one of the premier players in the ACC. Averaged 14.8 points and 3.3 rebounds while shooting 49.6 percent from the field.



Julius Hodge

Forward
Guard/Howard
N.C. State, Sr.
6 ft., 3 in.

Was the ACC player of the year last season. Was second in the conference in scoring and led in shooting at 51.3 percent.



Lawrence Roberts

Forward
Mississippi State, Sr.
6 ft., 9 in.

Returning All-America from last season. Averaged 16.9 points and 10.1 rebounds.



Wayne Simien

Forward
Kansas, Sr.
6 ft., 9 in.

Averaged 17.8 points and 8.3 rebounds, shot 53 percent from the field and 81 percent from the line.



Hakim Warrick

Forward
Syracuse, Sr.
6 ft., 8 in.

Flirted with entering the NBA Draft after averaging 19.8 points and 8.6 rebounds.



LSU dynamo Augustus heads women's list

BY CHUCK SCHOFFNER

The Associated Press

Give Seimone Augustus the basketball and watch her go to work.

Nothing is more comforting to the LSU Lady Tigers — or more unsettling for their opponents.

"When she touches the ball," LSU coach Pokey Chatman said, "something special is going to happen."

Augustus has tormented defenders for two years and the accolades have poured in. She received another Tuesday as the No. 1 choice on The Associated Press' preseason All-America team.

The 6-foot-1 junior received 44 of 45 votes from a national media panel. She was joined on the team by Minnesota's Janet McCarville (35 votes), Kansas State's Kendra Wecker (33), Tennessee's Shyrá Ely (20) and Notre Dame's Jacqueline Bateast (19).

Augustus, Ely and Wecker were third-team All-Americans last season, while McCarville and Bateast were honorable mentions.

Augustus, a starter from the day she arrived at LSU, averaged 19.4 points and 6.0 rebounds last season and was at her best in the NCAA tournament. She strung together games of 21, 26, 29 and 29 points in leading LSU to its first Final Four appearance.

"In my opinion, she is the best player in the country," said Baylor coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson, whose team plays LSU on Sunday. "I go back to the Cheryl Miller days, the Cynthia Cooper days. She is that kind of player."

Also a stronger player, said Chatman, who would like to see her star make better use of her free throw shooting. Augustus shot 90 percent from the line last season but averaged only three attempts a game.

"She's taking more contact," Chatman said. "Sometimes I tell her she lets the defense off the hook. When you shoot 90 percent from the line, you should try to get there more often."

While Augustus plays with a fluid athleticism, McCarville's

AP preseason women's All-America team

The Associated Press' 2004-05 preseason women's All-America basketball team, with school, year, height, points per game and assists per game in parentheses from 45-member national media panel and key stats from last season.

Seimone Augustus, LSU, Jr., 6-1, 9, 44 votes, 19.4 ppg, 6.0 rpg, 1.6 steals, 2.8 blocks, .516 pct., 361 ft. pct.

Janet McCarville, Minnesota, Sr., 6-2, 35, 16.1 ppg, 10.1 rpg, 2.8 steals, .516 pct., 361 ft. pct.

Kendra Wecker, Kansas, Sr., 5-11, 33, 16.8 ppg, 8.1 rpg, 1.9 steals, .494 ft. pct.

Shyrá Ely, Tennessee, Sr., 6-2, 20, 14.5 ppg, 8.0 rpg, .481 pct.

Jacqueline Bateast, Notre Dame, Sr., 6-2, 19, 15.0 ppg, 8.6 rpg, 2 assists.

game is built on strength and power in the low block. But like Augustus, the 6-2 senior was sensational in regional play while leading the Gophers to their first Final Four.

McCarville averaged 19.4 points and 15.0 rebounds in five NCAA games, setting a tournament record with 75 rebounds. For the season, she averaged a double-double (16.1 points, 10.8 rebounds) and shot 61.6 percent.

"She has already proven she is a dominating player in the paint

and the premier post player in the country," Minnesota coach Pam Bortoni said. "This season she has the chance to become the best player in the nation overall."

McCarville has to overcome a minor setback. A broken bone in her left hand will keep her out of at least two games.

Wecker, a 5-11 senior, assumes more responsibility at Kansas State now that All-America center Nicole Ohlde is gone. Even with Ohlde around, Wecker got plenty of opportunities last season, averaging 16.8 points and 8.1 rebounds.

She needs 518 points to pass Ohlde as the Big 12's career scoring leader. Wecker scored 521 last season.

"Playing out here in the Midwest, we don't receive a lot of recognition like some of the big powerhouse schools such as Tennessee, Duke and UConn," Wecker said.

Ely is the third preseason All-America with Final Four experience. She averaged 14.5 points

and 8.0 rebounds last season to lead a balanced Tennessee team that lost to Connecticut in the national championship game.

This season, the 6-2 senior is being counted on to do more.

"We need her to be a defensive stopper and an offensive go-to," coach Pat Summitt said. "There's no question she's ready for it. I think that starts in practice and she's demonstrated she wants that role."

Reliability has been the mark of Bateast's career at Notre Dame. The 6-2 senior has started 64 straight games and scored in double figures in 72 of 90 games.

Bateast averaged 16.0 points and 8.6 rebounds last season in helping Notre Dame reach the East Regional semifinals. She wants more this season, namely a trip down the highway to Indianapolis and the Final Four.

"We all have one goal in mind and we're going to do everything possible to make that happen," Bateast said. "Individual awards are great," but the success of this team is what this season will be all about."

Boras holds all the cards at GM meetings

Formidable agent represents prized free agents Beltran, Beltre, Ordóñez

BY BEN WALKER
The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Scott Boras leaned back against an enormous arrangement made from hundreds of pink roses, breathed in and liked the smell.

View this offseason is pretty sweet, too.

Because in the baseball world, he might be the biggest impact player right now, representing Carlos Beltran, Adrian Beltre, Magglio Ordonez and several other prime free agents.

"I've heard from all teams, I've talked to all teams," Boras said Tuesday, standing in the hotel lobby where the general managers meetings were being held.

While GMs debated moving back the July 31 trade deadline, reshaping the Arizona Fall League and other procedural topics, their real business never strayed very far from players.

And along with that talented trio of hitters, Boras is the agent for J.D. Drew, Derek Lowe, Jason Varitek and Kevin Millwood.

"He's got a very special class," New York Mets GM Omar Minaya said.

Beltran might seek a 10-year deal with his phenomenal postseason with Houston, and Beltre may look for something similar after his MVP-caliber year with Los Angeles.

Ordóñez, if he proves he's healed after knee surgery, could command a healthy contract. The four-time All-Star outfielder played only 52 games for the Chicago White Sox this year because of knee trouble.

Ordóñez walked through the hotel during the day, on his way to a meeting. At next month's winter meetings in Anaheim, Calif., he'll probably go through running drills for teams that are interested.

"People just want to see that he's healthy," Boras said.

Coming off Boston's win in the World Series, Varitek wants to catch onto a five-year deal. Lowe also is well positioned after winning the clinching game in the first round of the playoffs, the ALCS and the World Series.

Only a few teams might be willing to spend the kind of money Boras' guys want. Of course, the New York Yankees are at the top of that list, despite any rumblings

that they're worried about a \$200 million budget.

"This is my 24th year of doing this, and the Yankees' payroll has been 'dangerously' high '24 of 24,'" Boras said. "They've been the Goliath of the game, and I don't expect their position to change."

Which would put them in perfect position to get Beltran, a five-tool center fielder. The Yankees already have Bernie Williams playing that position — he's another Boras client.

Not to worry, the agent said.

"That's something between Carlos and Bernie," Boras said. "That's something they've talked about and dealt with."

Their conversation took place during the season, Boras said, and did not reveal the details or whether that meant the Yankees were the front-runners to sign Beltran.

So many potential moves this winter revolve about where top free agents might go, with Pedro Martinez, Nomar Garciaparra, Troy Glaus and Carl Pavano among those available. While the winter meetings usually produce more action, there's a chance some big-name players could move before that session Dec. 10-13.

Strong start for Clemens as MLB stars fall in Japan

The Associated Press

OSAKA, Japan — Roger Clemens looked little like a pitcher ready to retire.

Throwing on just a few hours' sleep after learning he'd won the NL Cy Young Award at age 42, Clemens held the Japanese All-Stars to three runs on eight hits in 5½ innings Wednesday

during a tour of Japan by major leaguers.

Backed by the two-hit pitching of Hisashi Iwakuma, the Japanese squad won 3-1 for their first win in the fifth game of the exhibition tour.

"I had a great deal of fun," he said. "All things considered, my body felt great. I'm extremely tired right now but was working on Adrenalin."

Clemens, who went 18-4 with a 2.98 ERA and 218 strikeouts for his hometown Houston Astros, won his record seventh Cy Young on Tuesday. He had also won the honor in a 1,100 a.m. phone call from Major League Baseball. After a bit of shuteye, Clemens got up for a conference call with reporters, then was off to a promotional event in downtown Osaka.

He's the oldest Cy Young Award winner; Gaylord Perry was 40 when he won the award in 1978.

Clemens wouldn't say definitively whether he'll play again. He briefly retired last offseason after helping the Yankees reach the



Houston Astros pitcher Roger Clemens holds up seven fingers at a news conference in Japan on Wednesday. Clemens, who has his seventh Cy Young Award on Tuesday, pitched 5½ innings on Wednesday for a group of touring MLB stars against a Japan all-star team.

World Series, then eventually decided to join the Astros.

"I know there are some people in the Houston organization who want to talk to me," Clemens said. "I just don't know yet."

Stottlemyre to coach in N.Y. for one more season

NEW YORK — Mel Stottlemyre will return as pitching coach of the New York Yankees next year, then retire after the 2005 season.

Stottlemyre has been pitching coach since manager Joe Torre was hired before the 1996 season. "I've been talking about retirement for about three years," Stottlemyre said Wednesday. "Each year I've changed my mind at the end of the season. I'll be 64 years old at this time at the end of next year, and it's probably time."

Joe Girardi will replace Willie Randolph as bench coach.

Girardi, who caught for the Yankees from 1996-99, retired when he was cut by New York at the end of spring training and was a broadcaster for the YES network during the season.

Randolph was hired last week as manager of the New York Mets.

New York said Don Mattingly will return for his second season as hitting coach.

Cardinals to host Red Sox in World Series rematch

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Cardinals will get another shot at the Boston Red Sox next season.

After sweeping the St. Louis in the World Series last season, the Red Sox will make their first regular-season visit to Busch Stadium from June 6-8, 2005. Both teams probably will look a lot different.

Coming off the club's first title in 86 years, 16 Boston players filed for free agency, including stars such as Pedro Martinez, Derek Lowe, Jason Varitek and Orlando Cabrera. Nine Cardinals will test the open market, including Matt Morris, Woody Williams, Edgar Renteria, Mike Matheny and Tony Womack.

The Cardinals plan to move into a new ballpark in 2006, making next year their 40th and final season at Busch Stadium.

Showalter, Cox voted top managers of 2004

BY RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bobby Cox was voted NL Manager of the Year on Wednesday for leading the rebuilt Atlanta Braves to a record 13th straight division title, and Buck Showalter won the AL honor after his Texas Rangers went from also-ran to contender.

Cox received 22 first-place votes and 10 seconds for 140 points to win easily. Tony La Russa of St. Louis, who has won four manager of the year awards, was second with 62 points, and Jim Tracy of Los Angeles was third with 52.

It was the third award for Cox, who won in the AL with Toronto in 1985 and in the NL with the Braves in 1991, the first year of Atlanta's record run.

Showalter kept Texas in the chase for a playoff berth until the final week of the season after four straight last-place finishes.

He received 14 first-place votes, nine seconds and four thirds for 101 points, finishing ahead of Minnesota's Ron Gardenhire, who got 11 firsts, 11 seconds and three thirds for 91 points.

Showalter also won the award in 1994 with the New York Yankees.

Gardenhire, who managed the Twins to their first straight AL Central title, finished second in the voting for the second straight season.

Atlanta was expected to finish no better than third in the NL East after slashing its payroll. But the Braves went 96-66 and finished 10 games ahead of second-place Philadelphia before losing 3-2 to Houston in the first round of the playoffs.

Despite trading AL MVP Alex Rodriguez to New York Yankees, Texas went 89-73. Its most wins since 1999 — and finished third in the AL West behind Anaheim and Oakland, just three games out of first.

"Cursed" contract fails to sell on eBay

The Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The contract that sent Babe Ruth from the Boston Red Sox to the New York Yankees failed to sell on an Internet auction site Tuesday night for 86 years.

Bidding on the famous document topped out at \$470,100. Alan Shawn Feinstein, the Providence philanthropist who put the contract up for sale, didn't expect the bid because he believed the document was worth more.

Feinstein, who made millions

in financial publications and has given away millions to schools and anti-nuclear programs, put the contract on eBay Oct. 30, three days after the Red Sox swept the St. Louis Cardinals to win their first World Series championship in 86 years.

With the fabled "Curse of the Bambino" finally over, Feinstein decided it was the perfect time to sell the contract and give the proceeds to charity.

The online auction began at \$50,000 and attracted more than 200 bids. Twenty-six bids over \$1 million were retracted or canceled.

Vikings' Moss out again this week

The Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — As expected, the Minnesota Vikings will play another game this week without All-Pro wide receiver Randy Moss.

After making routine appearances in the previous two games,

Moss sat out Monday night's loss at Indianapolis with a strained right hamstring — the first absence of his seven-year career.

Since he got hurt in the second quarter of Minnesota's win at New Orleans on Oct. 17, Moss has not caught a pass after recording at least one reception in each of his first 101 games.

That drought will continue on Sunday at Green Bay.

"Now that he's accepted the fact that he does have an injury, I think we'll better deal with it," coach Mike Tice said Wednesday. "He's in there rehabbing and training right now."

Moss has a high threshold for pain and a history of fast healing — and stubbornness. He finally consented last week to having an MRI exam, which confirmed the initial diagnosis.

"It was tough to get him to admit that he couldn't play with the injury," Tice said, "and when he finally did, it's where it should be. He should get it right."

Kickoff specialist Aaron Elling broke his right ankle while making a tackle against the Colts and is out for the season. The Vikings plan to work out several free agents because veteran Morten Andersen lacks the leg strength for kickoffs. The list includes Travis Dorsch, who was in training camp with the team.

Linebacker Raonell Smith (concussion) and running back Melvold Moore (ankle) are expected to play Sunday at Green Bay, and linebacker Chris Claiborne (calf) might be ready as well.

Despite Moore's return, Tice indicated Onterio Smith is likely to start against the Packers.

Eagles DT Rayburn injured in car accident

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Eagles defensive tackle Sam Rayburn was cited for leaving the scene of an accident after he walked away from a car wreck early Tuesday.

Rayburn was released from a hospital after being treated for a head laceration.

A second-year pro from Tulsa, Rayburn leads all defensive tackles with five sacks this season. He has become a valuable member of the Eagles' defensive line after earning a roster spot as a rookie free agent last season.

The accident occurred when Rayburn turned in front of an oncoming vehicle, said Inspector William Colarulo. Rayburn then left his car parked in front of a nearby store and flagged down officers a few blocks away. He may have been disoriented because of his head injury, Colarulo said.

Rayburn's status for Philadelphia's game at Dallas on Monday night is uncertain.

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by team's prognosis. (See Saturday's edition for complete injury report provided by the league):

Bills: OT Mike Williams (neck) questionable.
Steelers: RB Jerome Bettis (calf) probable; RB Bruce Staley (hamstring) questionable; RB Ken Keenum (leg) minor questionable; RB Vernon Haynes (turf toe) doubtful.

phia's game at Dallas on Monday night is uncertain.

Panthers RB Davis getting frustrated by knee injury

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Carolina running back Stephen Davis said Wednesday he expects to play again this season. He didn't sound convincing.

Davis has missed six games this season because of a knee injury. He had surgery Sept. 17 to repair torn cartilage, and even time he practices and moves closer to playing, his knee swells.

He practiced Wednesday and is questionable for Sunday's game at San Francisco. Asked if he expects to play this year, he replied, "At this point, yes. I believe that."

Then he wavered. "But I can't predict the future. As long as it continues to get better each week, I don't care if it comes down to the last week. If that's when I'm better, then that's when I'll play."

The Panthers (1-7) are depleted at running back, with DeShaun Foster and Rod Smart out for the season with injuries.

Dolphins abruptly cut starting safety Edwards

DAVIE, Fla. — The Miami Dolphins terminated the contract of starting free safety Antuan Edwards on Wednesday, citing his subpar play and the emergence of his backups as reasons for the surprising move.

Edwards, in his first year with the Dolphins after spending his first three NFL seasons with Green Bay, had 45 tackles and one sack since winning the job in training camp from Arturo Freeman, who is the leading candidate to start Miami's next game.

The Dolphins (1-8) also reached an injury settlement with kicker Matt Bryant, who went 2-for-3 on field goals while Orlando Mare recovered from an injured calf. Bryant missed Sunday's 24-23 loss to Arizona with a quadriceps injury and was replaced by Bill Gramatica, who missed an extra point and was cut Tuesday.

Mare, who practiced kicking during Wednesday's practice, now is the only kicker on the roster.

Dolphins bemoan coach's 'bad hand'

BY STEVEN WINE

The Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — As linebacker Zach Thomas and cornerback Sam Madison spoke, their voices broke with emotion, and general manager Rick Spielman talked while fighting back tears.

The topic of conversation was departed coach Dave Wannstedt. He went just 1-8 this season with the Miami Dolphins, but they were nonetheless sorry to see him go.

"To lose a guy like that, it's tough," Madison said. "It's love." Wannstedt said Tuesday he resigned because of relentless speculation about his future had become a distraction for the team.

Defensive coordinator Jim Bates was promoted to interim coach, and management immediately began a search for a coach in 2005.

A wave of injuries and the retirement of running back Ricky Williams contributed to this year's transformation of the long proud franchise into a laughingstock with the NFL's worst record.

"Dave got dealt a bad hand," Thomas said. "A lot of things were just uncontrollable. It just snowballed."

The coaching change came during the Dolphins' bye week, and two days after perhaps their most wrenching defeat yet. They trailed a lead against the Arizona Cardinals, who scored in the final seconds Sunday to win 24-23 and break a 17-game road losing streak.

On Monday, Wannstedt requested a meeting with owner Wayne Huizenga and said he had decided to step down. Huizenga wanted Wannstedt to coach the rest of the season but reluctantly accepted the resignation, team president Eddie Jones said.

"I have too much respect for the players and owner of this organization to allow myself to be the focal point for the remainder of the season," Wannstedt said at a news conference. "I told the players today the team must come



An unidentified fan holds his nose as the Dolphins allow the Cardinals to score the winning touchdown in the final minute on Sunday.

"Let's get this straight: Dave didn't quit. Ricky Williams quit. Dave stepped aside. There's a big difference."

Jason Taylor

Dolphins defensive end

first. This is what's best for our team."

Attendance has been in steep decline, but while Wannstedt's departure gave fans cause for celebration, the mood was gloomy at the team complex. Defensive end Jason Taylor reacted sharply to a question about Wannstedt quitting.

"Let's get this straight: Dave didn't quit," Taylor said. "Ricky Williams quit. Dave stepped aside. There's a big difference. Nobody who watched Dave on Sunday saw how much it hurt him. That's not a man who quit. That's a beaten man, a man who has been through a lot the last two or three years."

Williams took that criticism in stride.

"The way I look at it is I consider a lot of the guys in Miami friends. If everyone is using me as a scapegoat, I'm happy for that. Really. If it makes all the players feel better, then I'm all for that," he told The Palm Beach Post in a phone interview Tuesday.

Despite a 43-33 record in 4½ seasons with Miami, Wannstedt had been on the hot seat for some time because his lone playoff victory came four years ago. The Dolphins are one defeat from their first losing season since 1988 and have become the butt of jokes.

Wannstedt didn't mention Williams by name but said there were a lot of reasons for the decline.

"Many of those things I had no control over," he said. "But those things are not important today. Nobody wants to hear about excuses. Someone has to accept the ultimate responsibility. I'm the head coach, and that falls on me."

Speculation regarding the next coach began weeks ago. Mentioned as possible coaching candidates have been former Florida Gators coach Steve Spurrier,

LSU's Nick Saban, Philadelphia Eagles' offensive coordinator Brad Childress and New England Patriots offensive coordinator Charlie Weiss.

Spurrier would be a popular choice with fans in South Florida.

"At this point we have no intention to talk to coach Spurrier," Jones said. "Will that change? I'm not sure. But at this point we don't have any intention of doing so."

Saban issued a statement saying he was not interested in leaving the Tigers.

Bates, whose last head-coaching job was 19 years ago in the USFL, has been with the Dolphins since Wannstedt hired him as defensive coordinator in 2000. His first game as interim coach will be Nov. 21 at Seattle, and his plans for the bye week changed when he was promoted.

"I was going fishing Friday," he said with a smile. "But that's been canceled."

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Cash and al, Claudio inspires Samurai teammates

Perry senior plays on despite broken wrist in Far East High School Tennis Tournament

Stars and Stripes

Rebekkah Claudio could have stayed at home and rested her fractured left wrist, which she injured last weekend.

Yet there she was on Wednesday, opening day of the Far East High School Tennis Tournament at Kadena Air Base's Rishner Tennis Complex. On her right hand, playing three matches: two singles, one doubles.

"I just love to play tennis," said Claudio, a senior and captain of Matthew C. Perry's team.

Claudio, who is right-handed, fell and fractured her left wrist during a weekend tournament at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station. She had a cast put on it and continued playing.

"It's my last year, and I know I'll never play tennis again, except for fun," Claudio said of her determination to make the Far East trip. "No way was I going to pass this up."

Coach Shawn Ryan said he spoke with Claudio's family and "they felt comfortable" letting her go to Far East. Claudio, who won her first-round match and lost in the second round of the girls singles draw, and got knocked out in the first round of girls doubles, teaming with Sarah Leach.

It took some adjusting for Claudio to play with a cast. Two-handed backhand shots were out, as was tossing the ball airborne to serve. "I learned to do a one-handed backhand in three practices" before Far East, Claudio said. She served underhand, holding the racket and soft-tossing the ball with her left hand.

She also garnered a lot of attention away from the court. "Everybody was asking me, 'Are you playing? With that?'" Claudio said.

"She was looking forward to coming," Ryan said. "She had her heart set on playing. She's the team captain. For her to play through that, that makes an impression."

It certainly did on one of her teammates.

"She's my hero," Brandon Thompson said. "She's my inspiration. If she can do it with one arm, anybody can do it with two. That's some heart right there."

Unusual Kubasaki ceiling an issue for some Okinawa

Organizers of the Class AA Volleyball Tournament were scrambling when told three days before the tournament that one of four venues — Foster Field House — was needed as a backup facility in case it rained for Wednesday's

Marine Corps 229th Birthday celebration.

Host Kadena High School turned to neighboring Kubasaki, which made its two courts available — along with its unusual ceiling, long-hanging basketball support posts and morning sun glaring through the windows.

"It was either Kubasaki or Foster Field House, which was unavailable until 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, said tournament organizer Brian Hill. "We didn't have a choice."

It took time, however, for teams to adjust to Kubasaki's quirks. The Z-shaped ceiling angled right over the center of the two courts, with many a bump or set striking the ceiling, then falling at unplayable angles.

Balls also have hit basketball support struts, which were retracted as high as possible but still hung in the way. By agreement between referees and coaches, automatic replays were called whenever a ball struck overhanging bars, backboards and rims.

And the morning sun shone right in the eyes of teams facing the east side of the gym during 8 a.m. matches.

It took some time . . . but the girls adjusted very well," said

coach Bonnie Seeley of Japan's Yokohama Panthers, playing there for the first time.

Since 1982, Kubasaki's gym has played host to 13 Class AA tournaments. Seoul American coach Penny Hilgar, who has attended each of them, said, "You focus on the opponent on the other side of the net. Part of preparation is to look and see what you might run into, the markings on the floor, the sunlight. Everything's 50-50. Everybody's at the same disadvantage. That's part of the allure of Dragon Gym. I love this gym."

Given a choice between playing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or from 4 p.m. until midnight, Seeley said the tournament made the "smart, wise decision."

"Every gym has something," she said, adding that after getting used to the place Tuesday, the girls felt comfortable playing there Wednesday. "To me, it felt better that we were coming here. It didn't bother me."

"For the most part," Hill said, "coaches have been understanding. It's not the best situation, but they're making do."

Play resumed at spacious Foster Field House on Thursday. Kadena High and O'Connor Gym on Kadena Air Base also hosted matches during the week.

Volleyball and much more for spikers at Sasebo

There's no shortage of things for teams and players to do at the Class A Volleyball Tournament, being hosted for the first time at Sasebo Naval Base, Japan. And at least one coach is singing the praises of the school and community because of it.

In addition to the five-day combined round-robin and double-elimination tournament, organizers planned a bevy of other activities to keep players active long after the final whistles blew and games ended each day.

Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation came through with a bonfire night on Monday and a teen center movie and game night on Tuesday.

Players were given a chance to leave the base and visit Kashimae Pier, near Sasebo, for a museum and boat tour between the end of round-robin play and the start of the playoffs.

A USO movie was on tap for Thursday and a local shopping tour planned for Friday, after the 11 a.m. championship match and 5 p.m. closing ceremony.

"The school and community have really rolled out the red carpet for us," said Osan American coach Brian Swenty. "First class and five-star, all the way."

American sprinter Young banned for life by USADA

The Associated Press

DENVER — Sprinter Jerome Young, a central figure in a doping case that could cost the U.S. relay team its gold medal from Sydney, was banned for life by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency on Wednesday following his second positive test for drugs.

Young, of Fort Worth, Texas, tested positive for the banned drug EPO at a Paris meet in July, USADA said. He is believed to be the first sprinter to test positive for EPO, which is popular with endurance runners and cyclists.

Young tested positive for the steroid nandrolone in 1999, but was exonerated by a U.S. appeals panel in July 2000, avoiding a two-year ban. He ran in the opening and semifinal rounds of the Sydney Olympics, but not in the 1,600-meter final anchored by Michael Johnson.

All six members of the relay squad received gold medals, but Young's was stripped.

Other members of the team include 19-year-old Alvin Harrison, who accepted a four-year suspension in October for drug violations uncovered in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative case. Harrison's twin and Sydney teammate, Calvin Harrison, is serving a two-year suspension for testing positive for drugs linked to the BALCO case.

Track's world governing body, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), has recommended declaring the entire Sydney relay team ineligible.

Sports briefs

Last month, the U.S. Olympic Committee challenged the recommendation in a petition lodged with the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. Young was not covered by the appeal.

"As a matter of course, we don't comment on specific individual drug cases," said Jill Geer, spokeswoman for USA Track & Field.

Young, the world 400-meter champion in 2003, could not immediately be reached for comment.

Officials with the USOC did not immediately return calls seeking comment. Jennifer Coffman of the American Arbitration Association in New York deferred all comment for CAS to Swiss officials.

Harvick, Kahne on probation for intentional crash

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Kevin Harvick and Kasey Kahne were put on probation through the end of NASCAR's season and fined \$10,000 each Wednesday for deliberately crashing into each other after a race at Phoenix International Raceway.

Moments after the Checker Auto Parts 500 ended Sunday, Harvick and Kahne ran into each other on pit road and stopped. Harvick jumped from his car and leaned into Kahne's cockpit, gesturing and talking before being shoed back to his own car.

"He started running into us

after (the last) caution," Harvick said. "I just wanted to stop and ask him what the problem was."

NASCAR also fined Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s crew chief, Tony Eury, \$2,500 for having a windshield that did not meet the minimum required thickness of a quarter inch.

Carpenter moving from Champ Car to IRL

Patrick Carpenter will drive for Red Bull Cheever Racing next season and Toyota will supply the team's engines, a source close to the team told The Associated Press.

Carpenter will make the switch from the rival Champ Car World Series, joining holdover driver Alex Barron, and Toyota will replace Chevrolet as the

team's engine supplier, the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Finalists announced for Thorpe, Lombardi awards

Miami's Antle Rolle and Auburn's Carlos Rogers are among 12 semifinalists for the Jim Thorpe Award announced Tuesday.

The other semifinalists for the award given annually to college football's best defensive back are Tennessee's Jason Allen, Georgia Tech's James Butler, Georgia's Thomas Davis, Wisconsin's Jim Leonhard, Oregon State's Mitch McCourry, Clemson's Justin Miller, New Mexico's Brandon Payne, Michigan's Ernest Stashor, LSU's Corey Webster and Virginia Tech's Jimmy Williams.

For the second straight year, Georgia defensive end David Pollack is a finalist for the Lombardi Award, given annually to the nation's top lineman or linebacker.

Southern Cal defensive end Shaun Cody, Wisconsin defensive end Erasmus James and Texas linebacker Derrick Johnson are the other finalists.

Purdue QB Orton questionable

INDIANAPOLIS — After missing last week's 23-21 loss to Iowa — Purdue's fourth straight — Boilermakers quarterback Kyle Orton said he was "50-50" for Saturday's game against Ohio State.

Asked Tuesday if he would be able to play, Orton, who has a hip injury, said, "I have no idea. It's hard to tell. Some days I feel good, and other days I feel not so good."

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Exhibit 21-1

Kontig Resources

SPORTS



Rangers' Showalter, Braves' Cox
chosen as majors' top managers,
Page 35

Heat show promise

Shaq living up to his end of vow to bring title to Miami

BY TIM REYNOLDS

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Shaquille O'Neal promised to bring a championship to Miami. And although it's way too early to be thinking about titles, he can't wait to show off his new team to his old Western Conference rivals.

O'Neal had a season-high 20 points Tuesday to help Miami beat Washington 103-93 and move to 4-0 for the first time in franchise history. Any victory is nice, of course, but beating the Wizards twice, Cleveland and New Jersey hardly proves the Heat are contenders.

A pair of tests await Miami later this week, with Dallas visiting Thursday and then a game Friday at San Antonio.

O'Neal, who was traded to Miami by the Los Angeles Lakers in the summer, seems eager to face the likes of Dirk Nowitzki and Tim Duncan again.

"We have some teams coming up that are tough to play," O'Neal said. "They shoot the ball well, so we are really going to have to play good defense against those guys. When we do what we are supposed to do, though, I always love our chances — against any other team."

The Heat were 0-7 a year ago. Now, after trading with the Lakers for the 11-time All-Star, Miami is one of only four unbeaten NBA teams; Indiana, Utah and Phoenix are also 4-0.

O'Neal did a little of everything Tuesday, finishing with nine rebounds, four assists, three blocks and nine turnovers as Miami won a team-record 14th straight regular-season home game.

"They give it to the big fella, and he makes it easy for them," Wizards center Brendan Haywood said.

Dwyane Wade continued his strong start, too, with 22 points and nine assists, and Udonis Haslem chipped in with 18 points and 10 rebounds for Miami.

"We're still learning each other," Heat guard Eddie Jones said. "It's a great thing when you're winning and you're continuing to learn about each other. What happens when we get it all together, that's what you're trying to get to."

Gilbert Arenas scored 20 points for Washington, and Antawn Jamison finished with 14, well off the 27.3-point average he carried into the game.

Washington made only 43.2 percent of its shots and committed 20 turnovers.

SEE HEAT ON PAGE 33



Miami center Shaquille O'Neal (32) scores over Washington Wizards' Michael Ruffin (51) in the first quarter Tuesday in Miami. O'Neal scored 20 points as the Heat moved to 4-0 for the first time with a 103-93 win.



AP announces
preseason
All-America teams
in men's, women's
basketball

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16-page overview
of the 2004-05
college basketball
season inside

Timeout magazine



Despite record,
Dolphins sorry to
see Wannstedt go

Page 36

Far East tennis, volleyball tournament roundup Pages 38-39

